TOWARD BRITISH COLUMBIA NORTH STAR 2010:

December 12, 2002

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BC **PROGRESS** BOARD

Toward BC North Star 2010:

Second Annual BC Progress Board Benchmarking Report

Executive Summary

The BC Progress Board has two mandates:

- Benchmarking BC's performance over time and relative to other jurisdictions; and,
- Providing strategic advice to the Premier and government on measures to improve BC's economic performance and its social policy supports.

The second annual benchmarking report of the BC Progress Board *Toward BC North Star 2010*, confirms the leadership benchmarks established in the 2001 benchmarking report. The Board believes that British Columbia – despite continuing structural and secular challenges – has all the attributes to be an economic leader in Canada by 2010.

The Board reports on six core targets related to two overall goals for British Columbia. Twenty additional performance indicators, and a host of supplemental indicators and topic boxes shed further light on BC's economic and social performance, and some of the steps necessary to reach the Progress Board's 2010 North Star leadership benchmarks.

Economy, Innovation and Education

In 2001, the Progress Board recommended that British Columbia work towards two overarching goals, with the first goal being: *Make BC an Economic Leader in Canada by 2010*. To anchor this objective, the Board reports BC's progress on three core target measures: economic growth, standard of living and jobs.

- **Economic Growth**: Target 1st or 2nd among the provinces in the growth of real GDP per capita by 2010. In 2001, BC ranked tenth for the annual growth of real GDP per capita; this is down from BC's fifth ranked performance in 2000. BC ranked fourth for the level of real GDP per capita in 2001.

- **Standard of Living**: Target 1st or 2nd among the provinces on the level of real disposable income per capita by 2010. In 2001, BC held onto its third place rank among the ten provinces for the level of real disposable income per capita. BC continued to rank tenth for ten-year (1992-2001) improvement in this core target, unchanged from the 2000 rank reported in the first Progress Board benchmarking report.

- **Jobs**: Target 1st or 2nd for the employment rate by 2010. In 2001, BC ranked sixth for the employment rate (age 15-64) among Canadian provinces, a slight drop from its fifth place rank in 2000. BC's ten-year progress rank (1992-2001) also saw a slight drop from ninth to tenth.

The report contains thirteen additional performance indicators which provide further information on BC's economic performance. Three registered strong performance, ranking between first and

third among the provinces: real average hourly wages (1st), taxpayer supported debt (2nd), and top personal marginal income tax rate (2nd).

Eight performance indicators registered middling performance (ranked between fourth and seventh): productivity (5th); total exports per capita (7th); per capita tax burden (6th); net interprovincial migration (7th); business gross fixed capital formation (5th); university completion (4th); research and development spending (7th); and, employment in natural and applied sciences (4th). Two indicators registered in the weak category (i.e. ranked between eight and ten): provincial deficit/surplus (10th); and, secondary school graduates (9th).

This year's report includes several supplementary topic boxes on ***economy, innovation and education***. Among the topics examined: The Importance of Infrastructure to Economic Growth; Historical Comparison of Core Targets 1 through 3 (Economic Growth, Standard of Living and Jobs); Head Offices in Canada and BC; Productivity Growth; Export-led Growth – Reviving BC's Lagging Performance; Business Tax Competitiveness; The Size of Government; Business Investment in Machinery and Equipment; Apprenticeship Training; and, Internet Connectivity and Technology Diffusion.

Environment, Health and Society

The second overarching goal is: *Make BC a leader in Canada on Environmental Quality, Health Outcomes and Social Condition in Canada by 2010*. To anchor this objective, the Progress Board's report includes three specific targets:

- **Environmental Quality**: Target 1st among the provinces for environmental quality by 2010. BC's first place overall rank in 2001 on the Board's environmental quality index, which averages provincial performance on urban air quality, wastewater treatment, greenhouse gas emissions per capita, and protected areas, remains unchanged from the first Progress Board report. Data limitations prevent ten-year progress reporting.

- **Health Outcomes** (life expectancy at birth): Target 1st among the provinces for life expectancy at birth by 2010. In 1999 (the most recent data), BC ranked first amongst the provinces on this key measure of overall health outcomes, unchanged from its first place position in 1998. Throughout the 1990's, BC exhibited the third best overall improvement among the provinces.

- **Social Condition** (low income incidence): Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for having the smallest percentage of families and unattached individuals living below the low income cut-off (LICO) level by 2010. Statistics Canada has restated historical data for this measure of low income incidence, placing BC in ninth place for 2000 (the most recent data), unchanged from its ninth place revised rank for 1999. BC ranked eighth for ten-year improvement on the LICO between 1991 and 2000.

There are seven additional performance indicators used to measure BC's performance on ***environment, health and society***. Five registered strong performance, ranking between first and third among the provinces: protected areas (1st), cancer mortality (1st), low birth weight (1st), air quality (3rd), greenhouse gas emissions per capita (3rd). Wastewater treatment (5th) was the only middling performance indicator. Personal and property crime rate (10th) was the only weak performance indicator.

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This year's report also contains a number of special topic boxes related to ***environment, health and society***. Among the topics examined: Health Care Spending and Health Outcomes; Potential Years of Life Lost; Low Income Cut-Offs; BC and the Kyoto Protocol; Mortality from Cardiovascular Disease; Obesity: A Risk Factor in Heart and Other Disease; and Access to Health Care.

Supplemental US Comparisons

The Progress Board has continued its supplemental comparisons of BC performance relative to the states of Washington, Oregon and California and the provinces of Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, where there is comparable cross-jurisdictional data. On ten indicators of ***economy, innovation and education***, none placed in the strong category (i.e. first or second place). For three performance indicators, BC placed in the middling category (rank between three and five) – economic growth (real GDP per capita, 5th), per capita tax burden (5th), and top marginal personal income tax rate (3rd). BC registered weak performance (sixth or seventh rank) on standard of living (real personal disposable income per capita, 6th); jobs (employment to population ratio, 6th); real average hourly wages (7th); productivity (7th); unit labour costs (7th); net inter-provincial (state) migration (6th); and, research and development spending as a percent of GDP (6th).

Turning to supplemental US comparison measures for ***environment, health and society***, comparable data is available for three indicators. British Columbia placed in the strong category for urban air quality (1st) and the incidence of low birth weight (1st). British Columbia placed in the weak performance category for personal and property crime rate (7th).

Supplemental BC Regional Comparisons

The Progress Board also tracks comparisons of urban and regional performance in British Columbia. On indicators of ***economy, innovation and education***, urban British Columbia (defined as the Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area - CMA) outperforms regional BC (outside the Lower Mainland) on eight out of ten performance indicators: employment rate, taxfiler's employment income, housing starts, non-residential building permits, secondary school graduates, university completion, employment in natural sciences and related occupations, and net new business formation. Regional BC performed better than urban BC on manufacturing shipments and retail sales. Both the Vancouver CMA and Regional BC have roughly equivalent populations, making comparisons on this basis meaningful. Where data is available, the report also breaks out the Victoria CMA, as its industrial structure and workforce composition are more analogous to large urban BC than regional BC.

Of seven indicators of urban versus regional performance related to ***environment, health and society***, Regional BC under-performs the Vancouver CMA on air quality, wastewater treatment, cancer mortality, and life expectancy at birth. However, Regional BC outperforms the Vancouver CMA on low birth weight infants, personal and property crime rates and social condition (low-income incidence).

BC **PROGRESS** BOARD

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I. Benchmarking British Columbia: Reaching Our Potential

Introduction

This is the second annual report on the benchmarking mandate of the BC Progress Board. Established in July 2001 and comprised of 15 British Columbians with a broad range of experience, the Progress Board has two broad mandates:

- To provide advice on whether and to what extent the province is improving its competitive position and quality of life by establishing an ongoing means to measure and benchmark British Columbia's performance over time and relative to other jurisdictions; and,
- To identify issues of importance to the province's future economic prosperity and advise the Premier on strategies, policies and actions necessary to increase the economic and social well-being of British Columbians.

BC's economic performance has lagged behind key competitors for a number of years. Nonetheless, the BC Progress Board is convinced that British Columbia is well placed to become a top-performing jurisdiction in Canada by the end of the current decade. In fact, the province boasts many of the natural and human endowments necessary to become the **leading province in Canada**. Here are a few key ones:

- Abundant resources and a natural beauty renowned around the world;
- Uniquely situated between Europe and Asia;
- High quality infrastructure to transport goods, services and people;
- A diverse, multi-cultural society;
- A highly skilled and increasingly well-educated workforce capable of producing a wide-range of goods and services for domestic and international markets; and,
- Stable institutions and the rule of law.

The Progress Board's 2002 report builds on the content of our first report released in February 2002. We continue to view our reporting as a ***work in progress,*** and welcome your feedback on this document and how BC can be restored to its rightful leadership position within Canada.

Reaching our Potential: North Star 2010

The Progress Board believes there is fundamental congruence between a vibrant economy and a prosperous and healthy society. A strong, competitive economy enables government to provide the services required by the public. In this connection, the Progress Board established two overarching goals for British Columbia in its first annual report:

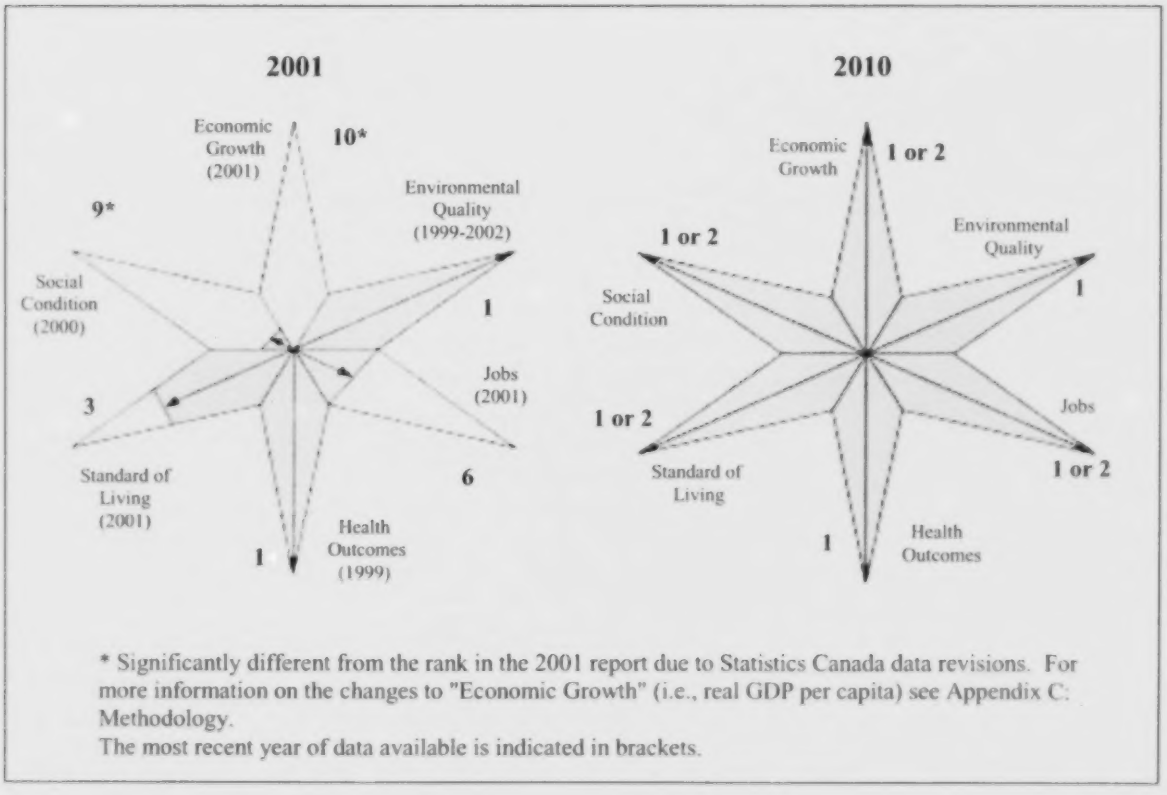
- ***Make BC an economic leader in Canada by 2010***; and,

- ***Make BC a leader in Canada on environmental quality, health outcomes and social condition by 2010.***

The notion of BC navigating toward its own North Star 2010 (i.e. attaining a leadership position in Canada) can be used to visualize where our province currently ranks on the six Core Targets included within this report and where it should rank by 2010. In line with our goal to make BC an economic leader, the Progress Board believes BC should rank 1st or 2nd on our core economic targets (Economic Growth, Standard of Living and Jobs) by 2010. Similarly, BC should maintain its 1st place rank on environmental quality and health outcomes, while striving for 1st or 2nd place for social condition by 2010.

Currently, BC ranks 10th on economic growth, 3rd on standard of living, 1st on environmental quality and health outcomes, 6th on jobs and 9th on social condition. In short, British Columbia maintains a solid standing on most environment, health and society core targets, while its economic performance continues to lag. The current rank and overarching goals for BC North Star 2010 on these six core targets are illustrated in the figure below. The current ranks are indicated by the shaded areas of the 2001 star.

North Star – BC in 2001 and 2010



* Significantly different from the rank in the 2001 report due to Statistics Canada data revisions. For more information on the changes to "Economic Growth" (i.e., real GDP per capita) see Appendix C: Methodology.
The most recent year of data available is indicated in brackets.

Economy, Innovation and Education – Summary Findings

The three core target indicators used to measure economic performance are the growth rate of real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita, the level of real personal disposable income per capita and the employment rate (for those aged 15 to 64).

Core Target 1: Economic Growth (Growth of Real GDP per Capita) – In 2001, BC ranked fourth among the provinces in level of real GDP per capita and tenth for the growth of real GDP per capita (negative 1.1%, versus an average of positive 0.5% for all provinces). Over the ten-year period 1992-2001, BC was last in the country on this basic performance measure.
Overarching Goal: Target 1st or 2nd among the provinces in the growth of real GDP per capita by 2010.

Core Target 2: Standard of Living (Real Personal Disposable Income per Capita) – In 2001, BC had the third highest level of real personal disposable income per capita in Canada, at $19,513 per person ($1997), below the Canadian average of $20,023 per person ($1997). Among the provinces, BC ranked eighth in improvement from 2000 to 2001, and it was the least successful in raising real personal disposable incomes on average between 1992 and 2001.
Overarching Goal: Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for the level of real personal disposable income per capita by 2010.

Core Target 3: Jobs (Employment Rate - For Those Aged 15 – 64) – In 2001, BC ranked sixth in Canada with an employment rate of 69.1% among those aged 15 to 64, while the national average was 70.9%. Among the provinces, BC was ninth in improving its record between 2000 and 2001. Over the decade 1992 to 2001, BC posted a small decrease in the employment rate on an average annual basis; all the other provinces had increases.
Overarching Goal: Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for the employment rate among those aged 15 to 64 by 2010.

British Columbia's position on the core economic targets and performance indicators ranges from strong to weak. A top three "by province" rank for the most recent year of data available is listed as strong performance. Ranks of four through seven are listed as middling performance and a bottom three rank warrants a weak performance designation.

British Columbia's overall position on the Economy, Innovation and Education core target and performance indicators as conveyed in this benchmarking report is middling. Of the sixteen indicators, four are in the strong category, nine are in the middling category and three are listed as weak. Three of the indicators (as designated with the ↑ in the following table) show improvement. Six of the indicators (as designated with the ↓ in the following table) show a decline in rank. The other seven indicators show no change in rank.

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Economy, Innovation and Education Performance Rank (and last year's rank)					
		Most Recent	Strong (1-3/10)	Middling (4-7/10)	Weak (8-10/10)
CT1	**Economic Growth**	2001			**10 (5) ↓**
CT2	**Standard of Living**	2001	**3 (3)**		
CT3	**Jobs**	2001		**6 (5) ↓**	
PI1	Real Average Hourly Wages	2001	**1 (2) ↑**		
PI2	Productivity	2001		**5 (5)**	
PI3	Total Exports per Capita	2001		**7 (7)**	
PI4	Taxpayer Supported Debt	2001/02	**2 (2)**		
PI5	Per Capita Tax Burden	2001/02		**6 (6)**	
PI6	Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	2002	**2 (3) ↑**		
PI7	Provincial Surplus/(Deficit)	2001/02			**10 (2) ↓**
PI8	Net Inter-Provincial Migration	2001/02		**7 (6) ↓**	
PI9	Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation	2001		**5 (6) ↑**	
PI10	Secondary School Graduates	2000			**9 (9)**
PI11	University Completion	2001		**4 (2) ↓**	
PI12	R&D as a Percent of GDP	1999		**7 (6) ↓**	
PI13	Natural and Applied Science and Rel. Occ.	2001		**4 (4)**	
Sub-Total			**4**	**9**	**3**

Strong Position

- In 2001, British Columbia had the third highest level of real personal disposable income per capita in Canada. At $19,513 per person, BC was still $510 below the national average.

- For six of the ten years between 1992 and 2001, BC had the highest real average hourly wage in the country.

- In 2001/02, BC ranked second for taxpayer supported debt as a percent of GDP and eighth for progress on debt between 1992/93 and 2001/02.

- BC ranked second on the top marginal personal income tax rate in 2002, and third for average annual change over the period 1993 to 2002.

Middling Position

- In 2001, British Columbia ranked sixth among the provinces on the core target for job performance used in this report, the employment rate (for those aged 15 to 64). All provinces except for BC saw their employment rates climb between 1992 and 2001.

- In 2001, BC ranked fifth in Canada in productivity, and on an average annual basis, it was eighth in raising productivity from 1992 to 2001.

- BC ranked seventh on total exports of goods and services per capita in 2001 and tenth on average annual growth in exports between 1992 and 2001.

- By 2001-02, British Columbia had the sixth lowest consolidated provincial-local government tax burden on a per person basis, although it ranked first among the provinces in progress on this indicator between 1992/93 and 2001/02 – i.e., consolidated provincial-local taxes per person rose faster, on average, in the other provinces.

- The strong inter-provincial migration that BC enjoyed in the first half of the 1990s has reversed; BC ranked seventh in 2001/02 and for the decade 1992/93 through 2001/02.

- Within Canada, BC stood fifth in fixed gross business investment as a proportion of GDP in 2001, and it was second last in Canada in the average annual growth of the ratio of business investment-to-GDP in the period 1992 to 2001.

- In the 25 to 54 year old age group, BC had the fourth highest percentage of the population with university completion in 2001, and it ranked fifth in average annual improvement on this measure between 1992 and 2001.

- BC was seventh in the country in both research and development spending as a percentage of GDP in 1999, and for average annual progress on this important indicator of innovation from 1991 to 1999.

- In 2001, three provinces ranked ahead of BC in the ratio of people employed in natural and applied science occupations as a percent of total employment. British Columbia ranked seventh on average annual progress on this ratio between 1992 and 2001.

Weak Position

- In 2001, BC had the fourth highest level of real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in the country, ranking behind Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan. On the measure used in this report, growth in real GDP per capita, BC ranked tenth in 2001.

- In 2001/02, BC ranked tenth on the provincial surplus/(deficit) indicator and ninth on average annual progress on the deficit between 1992/93 and 2001/02.

- BC's secondary school graduation rate was better than only one other province in 2000 although average annual improvement in BC's rate between 1991 and 2000 was third best among the provinces.

Environment, Health and Society – Summary Findings

British Columbia has a solid record on the various environment, health and society core targets and performance indicators. In this broad area, the three core target variables chosen by the Progress Board are environmental quality, health outcomes, and social condition.

Core Target 4: Environmental Quality – BC currently ranks first in Canada for overall environmental quality based on an average of its performance rankings for urban air quality, wastewater treatment, greenhouse gas emissions per capita, and protected areas.
Overarching Goal: Maintain 1st position in Canada for environmental quality through 2010.

Core Target 5: Health Outcomes – In 1999, BC was first in Canada in life expectancy at birth for both men and women. It ranked third for improvement on this measure from 1998 to 1999, and it was third in the country in progress between 1991 and 1999.
Overarching Goal: Maintain 1st position in Canada for life expectancy at birth through 2010.

Core Target 6: Social Condition – In 2000, BC ranked ninth among the provinces, with 16.3% of families and unattached individuals below the low-income cut-off level (LICO). The Canadian average was 14.6%. BC ranked eighth in progress on this measure between 1999 and 2000, and eighth in success in reducing the proportion of families and unattached individuals below the low income line between 1991 and 2000.
Overarching Goal: Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for having the smallest percentage of families and unattached individuals living below the low income cut-off level by 2010.

British Columbia's position on the environment, health and society core targets and performance indicators ranges from strong to weak. A top three rank for the most recent year of data available is considered strong performance. Ranks of four through seven are viewed as middling performance and a bottom three rank warrants a weak performance designation.

British Columbia's overall position on the Environment, Health and Society core targets and performance indicators included in this benchmarking report is strong. Of the ten indicators, seven are in the strong category, one is in the middling category and two are listed as weak. Two of the indicators (as designated with the ↑ in the following table) show a rank improvement. Only one indicator (as designated with the ↓ in the following table) shows a decline in rank. The other seven indicators show no change in rank.

Environment, Health and Society Performance Rank (and last year's rank)					
		Most Recent	Strong (1-3/10)	Middling (4-7/10)	Weak (8-10/10)
CT4	**Environmental Quality**	n/a	**1 (1)**		
CT5	**Health Outcomes**	1999	**1 (1)**		
CT6	**Social Condition**	2000			**9 (9)**
PI14	Air Quality	2001	**3 (2)** ↓		
PI15	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	2000	**3 (3)**		
PI16	Wastewater Treatment	1999*		**5 (n/a)**	
PI17	Protected Areas	2002	**1 (1)**		
PI18	Cancer Mortality	1998	**1 (3)** ↑		
PI19	Low Birth Weight	1999	**1 (2)** ↑		
PI20	Personal and Property Crime	2001			**10 (10)**
Sub-Total			**7**	**1**	**2**
*No updated data available this year					

Strong Position

- For environmental quality, BC stands first in Canada based on an average of its performance rankings on urban air quality, greenhouse gas emissions per capita, wastewater treatment, and protected areas.

- Vancouver, the province's largest metropolitan center, ranked third among eight Canadian cities in 2001 for having the lowest concentrations of particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$), a standard measure of air quality.

- British Columbia has a relatively good record on emissions of greenhouse gases per person. In 2000, it posted the third lowest level of per capita greenhouse gas emissions in Canada at 16.2 tonnes, almost one-third below the national average of 23.6 tonnes. Over the period 1991 to 2000, BC ranked third among the provinces in annual average improvement (i.e., in moving toward lower per capita emissions).

- On parks and protected areas, BC leads Canada – indeed, it is first in North America – in the proportion of land officially set aside for this purpose, at 12.5%, compared to a national average of 6.9% and 12.4% in next-door Alberta.

- For health outcomes, BC led the country in life expectancy as of 1999, the last year for which data is available. Over the 1990s, BC ranked third in raising life expectancy, reaching 80.0 years by 1999, up from 78.1 years at the start of the decade.

- British Columbia scores well on cancer mortality, with the lowest rate in the country. It also ranked second on annual average progress in reducing cancer mortality between 1991 and 1998.

- On the incidence of low birth weight, an internationally recognized indicator of health and social condition, BC had the best record in Canada in 1999 and ranked third in annual average improvement from 1991 to 1999.

Middling Position

- In 1999, BC placed fifth in Canada in the percentage of the population served by sewers that had secondary or better wastewater treatment facilities, and it outdistanced all other provinces in improvement over the 1990s.

Weak Position

- The Progress Board's target for social condition, low income incidence, is based on Statistics Canada's *low income cut-off*, or LICO. In 2000, BC was ninth among the provinces, with 16.3% of families and unattached individuals living below the LICO level, higher than the national average of 14.6%.

- In 2001, BC had the country's highest combined personal and property crime rate, with the vast majority of reported incidents falling into the property crime category. Despite this poor showing, the good news is that BC has experienced a 25.9% drop in the combined personal/property crime rate since 1992.

US State Comparison – Supplemental Information

To provide an indication of how BC compares with US jurisdictions, the report contains a series of supplemental information boxes that provide information on seven jurisdictions: BC, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, Washington, Oregon and California. Due to data limitations, a state-provincial comparison is not available for all of the core targets and performance indicators. Similar to Canadian comparisons, BC's performance is grouped into weak, middling, and strong. Since there are only seven jurisdictions a top two ranking for the most recent year of data available is considered strong performance. Ranks of three through five are listed as middling performance and a sixth or seventh rank warrants a weak performance designation.

Economy, Innovation and Education

British Columbia did not have any top two rankings on provincial and state comparative economic performance indicators. Three out of ten BC ranks were between third and fifth, and the remaining seven ranks were sixes and sevens.

Supplemental US Comparisons: Economy, Innovation and Education

			BC's Performance		
		Most Recent	Strong (1-2/7)	Middling (3-5/7)	Weak (6-7/7)
CT1	**Economic Growth**	2000		**5 (6) ↑**	
CT2	**Standard of Living**	2001			**6 (6)**
CT3	**Jobs**	2001			**6 (6)**
PI1	Real Average Hourly Wages	2001			**7 (6) ↓**
PI2	Hourly Labour Productivity	2001			**7 (7)**
PI2	Unit Labour Costs	2000			**7 (7)**
PI5	Per Capita Tax Burden	1998/99*		**5 (n/a)**	
PI6	Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	2002		**3 (3)**	
PI8	Net Inter-Provincial (State) Migration	2001			**6 (6)**
PI12	R&D as a Percent of GDP	1999			**6 (7) ↑**
Total			**0**	**3**	**7**

*No updated data available this year

Middling Position

- BC compares poorly in the growth of real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita, earning a fifth place rank in 2000. BC posted the weakest annual average performance between 1991 and 2000 on this indicator.

- The tax structure in BC earned it a fifth place rank on the per capita tax burden indicator.

- From 1994 through 2000 BC had the highest top marginal personal income tax rate but, recent tax cuts have improved BC's rank to third position.

Weak Position

- BC ranked sixth on real personal disposable income per capita in 2001. The three states clearly dominate this indicator. The gap in real personal disposable income

per capita between BC and the states reviewed ranges from $5,473 (Oregon) to $8,455 (California).

- BC ranked sixth on the employment rate. The ratio fell in five jurisdictions between 2000 and 2001; BC had the third largest decrease.

- The real average hourly wages indicator is ranked from the *employer's* point of view and, as BC has relatively high wages, it earned a seventh place rank in 2001.

- BC ranked last on hourly labour productivity performance in 2000.

- BC's relatively high wages and low productivity combined to earn it a last place rank on the unit labour cost indicator.

- Migration to BC has fallen recently resulting in a sixth place rank on the net inter-provincial (inter-state) migration indicator.

- Spending on research and development as a percent of GDP is relatively low in BC; it ranked sixth.

Environment, Health and Society

Similar to the province-only comparisons, British Columbia performed better on the environment, health and society indicators than on measures of economic performance. Of the three provincial-state comparisons, BC had two strong rankings and one weak one.

Supplemental US Comparisons: Environment, Health and Society					
			BC's Performance		
		Most Recent	Strong (1-2/7)	Middling (3-5/7)	Weak (6-7/7)
PI14	Air Quality	2001	**1 (1)**		
PI19	Low Birth Weight	1999	**1 (1)**		
PI20	Personal and Property Crime Rates	2000			**7 (7)**
Total			**2**	**0**	**1**

Strong Position

- Among the major cities in each jurisdiction considered, BC had the best air quality in 2001.

- BC had the lowest incidence of low birth weight infants of the seven jurisdictions reviewed. In fact, between 1992 and 1999, BC's peak low birth weight ratio was below the lowest rates seen in any other jurisdiction.

Weak Position

- BC not only has the highest per capita crime rate in Canada, it also has a higher rate than those found in Washington, Oregon, and California, earning it a seventh place rank on the personal and property crime rate indicator.

BC Regional Comparison – Supplemental Information

British Columbia consists of a number of regional economies that differ significantly from each other in both industrial structure and social composition. Chapter IV of the report includes information comparing "*large urban British Columbia*" (here defined as the Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) and the Victoria CMA) and "*Regional British Columbia*" (the rest of the province) on a variety of economic, social and environmental indicators. Appendix E includes maps of the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs. Data limitations prevent comparisons at a sub-provincial level for many of the indicators included within the core benchmarking framework. Some measures reported in Chapter IV match those used for the province as a whole. Where appropriate, proxy indicators are used when sub-provincial data is not available for the core target and performance indicators.

One addition to our regional benchmarking in 2002 is the presentation of data for the Victoria CMA for all but one of the regional performance indicators. The structural composition of the Victoria CMA is more similar to the lower mainland, than other parts of Regional BC. Overall, the Vancouver CMA accounts for 49.5% of BC's total population, the Victoria CMA a further 7.8%, while Regional BC is home to the remaining 42.7%. Perhaps surprisingly, the Vancouver CMA and Regional BC had similar rates of population growth since 1991, 23.2% and 22.0% respectively. The Victoria CMA had considerably slower growth of 8.6% between 1991 and 2001. For ease and consistency in reporting, the following summary highlights the distinctions between Vancouver and Regional BC, unless Victoria's performance is especially noteworthy.

Economy, Innovation and Education

The Vancouver CMA outperforms Regional BC on most of the Economy, Innovation and Education indicators. The exceptions include retail sales (which is split fairly evenly based on population) and manufacturing shipments. The fact that Regional BC's manufacturing shipments greatly exceed those of the Vancouver CMA is not surprising given that so much of BC's economic activity originates in Regional BC. The following table provides a basic overview of these indicators.

Comparison of Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC

Economy, Innovation and Education

	Most Recent Data	Metric Description	Van. CMA	Vic. CMA	RBC	RBC vs. Urban
1. Jobs: Employment Rate	2001	% Pop. (15-64)	69.8	70.5	67.8	-
2. Tax Filer's Employment Income	1999	% of Total	55.4	8.0	36.4	-
3. Manufacturing Shipments	1999	% of Total	22.9	0.9	76.1	+
4. Retail Sales	2001	% of Total	49.8	N/A	50.2	+
5. Housing Starts	2001	% of Total	63.0	7.3	29.6	-
6. Non-Res. Building Permits	2001	% of Total	55.0	7.8	37.2	-
7. Secondary School Graduates	2001	% Pop. (18 yrs.)	82.9	75.1	73.9	-
8. University Completion	2001	% Pop. (25-54)	25.0	25.0	12.1	-
9. Scientists and Engineers Empl.	2001	% Employment	6.9	8.3	4.6	-
10. New Business Formations	2001	% of Total	69.3	7.2	23.6	-

- The employment gap between Greater Vancouver and Regional BC – as measured by the employment rate – has widened since 1998, although it is currently smaller than it was in 1992.

- Employment income in BC is more concentrated in the Vancouver CMA than population proportions would suggest. Employment income in the Vancouver CMA is 55.4% of the total; Regional BC accounts for 36.4%.

- The bulk of manufacturing shipments originate outside of Vancouver and Victoria and the proportion of shipments from these two cities fell in the 1990s. In 1999, Vancouver was responsible for 22.9% of all shipments, Victoria for only 0.9%, and Regional BC for the remaining 76.1%.

- Retail sales accumulate roughly in proportion to population. Slightly less than half (49.8%) of all 2001 retail sales were in Vancouver while the rest were in Victoria and Regional BC.

- Housing starts show a divergent path between Vancouver and Regional BC. Starts in Regional BC fell further and faster in the early 1990s than in Vancouver and have not bounced back since 2000, as they have in Vancouver.

- Building permits have been a bright spot for Regional BC relative to Vancouver. The average annual growth in the value of non-residential building permits ($1992) between 1992 and 2001 was 7.6% in Victoria, 1.3% in Regional BC and negative 0.2% in Vancouver.

- The Vancouver CMA has proportionately more high school graduates than Regional BC.

- The Vancouver CMA also has proportionally more residents with university credentials than Regional BC.

- The Vancouver CMA has a larger fraction of its employment in natural and applied sciences and related occupations than does Regional BC.

- Vancouver also significantly outpaces Regional BC in rates of net new business formation.

Environment, Health and Society

A review of available regional indicators for Environment, Health and Society shows that Vancouver typically performs better than Regional BC. However, the Vancouver CMA is not as dominant on this set of seven indicators as it is on measures of economy, innovation and education; the split is more even with Regional BC outperforming the Vancouver CMA on three indicators (low birth weight, crime rates, and low income incidence).

Comparison of Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC Environment, Health and Society	Most Recent Data	Metric Description	Van. CMA	Vic. CMA	RBC	RBC vs. Urban
11. Air Quality	2001	Mean $PM_{2.5}$ Conc.	5.3	5.9	6.8	-
12. Wastewater Treatment	1999	% Pop. Served	57.0	N/A	46.0	-
13. Cancer Mortality	2001	Mort. Rate per 1,000	4.5	6.0	4.9	-
14. Life Expectancy at Birth	2001	Years	81.6	80.6	79.8	-
15. Low Birth Weight	2001	per 1,000 Live Births	50.0	48.3	48.8	+
16. Personal and Property Crime	2001	per 100 Pop.	9.3	6.6	6.7	+
17. Social Condition	2000	% of Families	19.6	16.7	12.0	+

- Vancouver performs well among BC cities on air quality (measured by $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations).
- Vancouver scores noticeably better than the rest of the province on wastewater treatment.
- Life expectancy at birth is higher in the Vancouver CMA than in Regional BC.
- Cancer mortality in the Vancouver CMA is lower than in Regional BC.
- The Lower Mainland typically has a higher incidence of low-birth weight infants than Regional BC.
- Personal and property crime rates were consistently higher in the Vancouver CMA than in Regional BC over the 1990s.
- Vancouver has a higher incidence of people living below the low income cut-off.

Special Topics – Supplemental Information

In addition to the wealth of information contained in the core target and performance indicators, special topics related to the benchmarks are included at various points throughout the report.

Special Topics Related to Economy, Innovation and Education

The Importance of Infrastructure to Economic Growth (page 23)

Infrastructure such as transportation, utility and communication networks drive productivity and economic growth by making it easier, and therefore cheaper, to do business. Investment in infrastructure assists economic expansion through increasing productivity levels and allowing for the extraction of more output from a given input of resources.

Historical Comparison of Core Targets 1 through 3 (page 29)
Data from 1971 through 2001 for the first three Core Targets: economic growth, standard of living, and jobs show how much BC's performance needs to improve, not only to match other jurisdictions but also to match its own historical performance.

Productivity (page 34)
British Columbia's productivity has fallen well below the Canadian average; a situation made even more critical by the fact that productivity growth in Canada itself has been slipping versus the U.S. and other global competitors over the past several years.

Head Offices in Canada and BC (page 35)
British Columbia and Canada in general have been losing head offices in recent years. In 1990, Vancouver had 2.7 corporate headquarters per 100,000 population versus 2.9 in Montreal, 4.6 in Toronto and 5.9 in Calgary. The number of head offices has fallen between 1990 and 2001 in every city examined, but the decrease in Vancouver was the largest.

Export-Led Growth: Reviving BC's Lagging Performance (page 39)
The per capita GDP growth numbers for the last three decades clearly indicate BC's poor relative economic performance. An export-based strategy should be part of any overall effort to reverse the pattern of decline seen over the last three decades.

Business Tax Competitiveness (page 43)
Increasingly, tax policy decisions must take into consideration how tax levels compare relative to competing jurisdictions, both nearby and around the globe. When judged against main Canadian competitors – Ontario and Alberta – BC has room for further improvement on the business taxation front.

Size of Government (page 48)
Recent research indicates that the relative size of a country's government sector may negatively affect competitiveness, and increases in the size of government beyond the optimal point may produce little in terms of social progress.

Business Investment in Machinery and Equipment (page 53)
Significant and ongoing business investment in machinery and equipment is essential to ensure that a region is constantly adapting and restructuring itself – necessities for any economy that hopes to remain competitive.

Apprenticeship Training (page 56)
An apprenticeship is paid work-based training combined with post-secondary education. An apprentice spends approximately 80% of their time learning their skills on the job under the direction of a skilled journeyperson and approximately 20% of their time learning in a classroom setting. The Statistics Canada Registered Apprenticeship Training database has over 100 trades ranging from Baker to Electrician to Tool and Die Maker.

Internet Connectivity and Technology Diffusion (page 59)
Technology diffusion refers to the speed with which a new technology is adopted and the proportion of the population which has access to it. Internet access is growing quickly in Canada. BC and Alberta, at 65.3% in 2001, have the highest percentage of households connected to the internet; the Canadian average is 60.2%.

Special Topics Related to Environment, Health and Society

Potential Years of Life Lost (page 65)
Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) is an indicator of premature mortality. Potential Years of Life Lost represents the number of years lost when a person dies prematurely. British Columbia ranked second in terms of PYLL in 1999 with an indicator value of 51.8 years per 1,000 population, behind Ontario at 49.1 and ahead of Newfoundland and Labrador at 53.8.

Health Care Spending and Health Outcomes (page 66)
Government spending on health care has been growing in real terms for decades and while some reports indicate that the recent pace of growth may moderate soon, it is likely that government spending on health care will continue to grow as Canada's population ages. In 1976, BC spent $3.5 billion on health care (all figures in 1997 dollars). By 1986, BC's expenditure had reached $5.1 billion and by 2001 it had reached $9.0 billion.

Low Income Incidence (page 68)
The use of Low Income Cut-Offs as a benchmark for improvement can be fairly criticised due to the relative nature of the measure. An alternative to the LICO measure is to estimate the cost of a basket of necessities and keep track of the number of people who cannot afford that basket. Statistics Canada, in cooperation with the provincial and territorial Ministers of Social Services and Human Resources Development Canada, are working on a needs-based measure of poverty called the Market Basket Measure (MBM).

BC and the Kyoto Protocol (page 72)
Global warming has been cause for international concern for well over a decade. In 1992, global apprehension over greenhouse gas emissions led to negotiation and ratification of the United Nations' Framework on Climate Change. The Kyoto Protocol, signed in Japan in 1997, followed this preliminary meeting. Without clearly defined policies, regulatory targets, and programs it is impossible to adequately assess an agreement which will have far reaching environmental and economic implications for generations to come.

Mortality from Cardiovascular Disease (page 76)
Cardiovascular disease (heart disease and stroke) is the leading reason for hospitalization for men and women (excluding childbirth). Cardiovascular disease is the cause of death of over one-third of Canadians. It not only affects the elderly but is also the third leading cause of premature death under age 75. British Columbia has the lowest mortality rate from cardiovascular disease in Canada at 206 people per 100,000 in 1999.

Obesity: A Risk Factor in Heart and Other Disease (page 77)
Obesity, especially abdominal obesity, is associated with an increased risk of ischemic heart disease. Individuals with a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 27 are usually overweight and have a greater likelihood of developing health problems. In 2000/01, thirty-two percent of Canadian adults are obese with the prevalence being greater among men than women. British Columbia had the lowest percentage (27.0%) of obese people in the country, followed by Quebec (29.0%) and Ontario (32.6%).

Access to Health Care (page 80)
An estimated 4.3 million Canadians reported difficulties accessing first contact health care services and approximately 1.4 million Canadians reported difficulties accessing specialized health care services in a recent Statistics Canada survey. Lengthy waits and problems contacting a health care provider were frequently cited by those who experienced difficulty accessing care.

Summary of Additions and Changes to the 2002 Report

Below is a list of the additions and changes to the 2002 benchmarking report relative to the 2001 report released in February 2002. Throughout the report, there are technical notes outlining specific changes and alterations to individual indicators.

Additions to the 2002 Benchmarking Report:

- Note: To avoid replication, new topic boxes highlighted in the preceding section are not mentioned here;
- **Performance Indicator 9 (Supplemental Information):** Business non-residential investment;
- **Regional Performance Indicator 17 (Supplemental Information):** Employment Insurance recipients;
- **Regional Performance Indicator 17 (Supplemental Information):** Income Assistance recipients.

Changes to the 2002 Benchmarking Report:

- Note: Changes in rank due to data or methodological revisions are not listed here. They are detailed on the relevant pages in the following chapters;
- **Core Target 1:** Removal of 1-year progress check; addition of real GDP per capita chart;
- **Core Target 1 (US Comparison):** Removal of 1-year progress check;
- **Performance Indicator 1:** Data adjusted for inflation;

- **Performance Indicator 1 (US Comparison):** Data adjusted for inflation; source data switched to include "1-Digit Industry Divisions" as well as "Combination of Industries"; 1997 PPP exchange rate used instead of standard exchange rate;

- **Performance Indicator 4 (US Comparison):** Deleted due to minimal state level net debt;

- **Performance Indicator 6 (US Comparison):** California's top marginal income tax rate corrected for 1992 through 1995;

- **Performance Indicator 12 (US Comparison):** US R&D data switched to "Total" from "Total Industrial" to make them more comparable with the Canadian data;

- **Performance Indicator 20 (US Comparison):** US information updated due to historical data revision;

- The **Chapter III, IV, and V** overviews that were included in the 2001 Report have been consolidated into Chapter I of this report;

- Two Regional Performance Indicator summary tables have been added to Chapter IV; these tables are similar to those presented in Chapters II and III;

- The Victoria CMA is separated out from "Regional BC" in the regional performance indicators as, in most cases, Victoria is more similar to Vancouver than Regional BC in its economic and social performance.

Presentation Changes to the 2002 Benchmarking Report:

- BC is always presented as a thick, solid line in charts so it can be more easily identified;

- Chapter V includes an update on activities during 2002.

Outline of the Remainder of 2002 Report

The remainder of this report is divided into four chapters and a number of appendices.

Chapter II reports the economic benchmarks, focusing on measures of growth, prosperity, innovation and education.

Chapter III reports the environment, health and society benchmarks.

Chapter IV outlines the comparative information on economic, social and environmental performance in Vancouver, Victoria and Regional British Columbia.

Chapter V comments briefly on the BC Progress Board's advisory work.

PROGRESS

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II. Economy, Innovation and Education

Targets and Performance Indicators

Goal

Make BC an economic leader in Canada by 2010.

Targets

1. **Economic Growth**: Target 1st or 2nd among the provinces in the growth of real GDP per capita by 2010.
2. **Standard of Living**: Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for the level of real personal disposable income per capita by 2010.
3. **Jobs**: Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for the employment rate among those aged 15 to 64 by 2010.

Performance Indicators

1. Real Average Hourly Wage
2. Productivity
3. Total Exports
4. Taxpayer Supported Debt
5. Tax Burden - Consolidated Provincial and Local
6. Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate
7. Provincial Surplus/(Deficit)
8. Net Inter-Provincial Migration
9. Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation
10. Secondary School Graduates
11. University Completion
12. Research and Development
13. Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations

Where BC Ranks

Economy, Innovation and Education

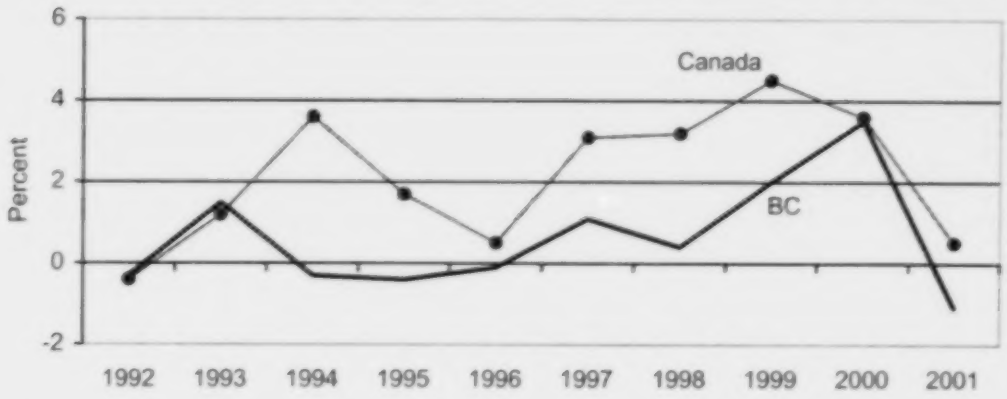
	Economy, Innovation & Education																	
	1. Economic Growth: Growth of Real GDP per Capita	2. Standard of Living: Real Pers Disposable Income per Capita	3. Jobs, Employment to Population Ratio	1. Real Average Hourly Wage	2. Productivity	3. Total Exports Per Capita	4. Tax Payer Supported Debt	5. Per Capita Tax Burden	6. Top Marginal Tax Rate	7. Provincial Deficit/Surplus	8. Net Inter-Provincial Migration	9. Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation	10. Secondary School Graduates	11. University Completion	12. R&D as a % of GDP	13. Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations	Arithmetic Average	Overall Indicative Rank
By Province (most recent data available) (BC's prior rank is shown in brackets)																		
Year	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001/02	2001/02	2002	2001/02	2001/02	2001	2000	2001	1999	2001		
BC	**10 (5)**	**3 (3)**	**6 (5)**	**1 (2)**	**5 (5)**	**7 (7)**	**2 (2)**	**6 (6)**	**2 (3)**	**10 (2)**	**7 (6)**	**5 (6)**	**9 (9)**	**4 (2)**	**7 (6)**	**4 (4)**	**5.5**	**4**
AB	6	1	1	3	1	2	1	5	1	1	1	1	10	2	8	2	2.9	1
SK	9	8	3	6	4	3	4	8	3	5	10	4	5	8	5	10	5.9	6
MB	3	4	2	8	6	5	3	7	4	3	8	9	8	6	4	9	5.6	5
ON	7	2	4	2	2	1	5	9	5	4	3	7	6	1	2	1	3.8	2
QC	5	5	7	4	3	6	8	10	9	5	4	10	3	3	1	3	5.4	3
NB	4	7	9	9	8	4	7	3	6	2	5	8	1	9	9	7	6.1	7
NS	1	6	8	7	9	9	10	4	7	7	6	3	7	5	3	6	6.1	7
PE	8	9	5	10	10	8	6	2	8	8	2	6	2	7	10	8	6.8	9
NF	2	10	10	5	7	10	9	1	10	9	9	2	4	10	6	5	6.8	9
One Year Progress Check (BC's prior rank is shown in brackets)																		
Year	n/a	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001/02	2001/02	2002	2001/02	2001/02	2001	2000	2001	1999	2001		
BC	**n/a**	**8 (5)**	**9 (6)**	**2 (1)**	**2 (8)**	**10 (5)**	**10 (5)**	**4 (3)**	**1 (1)**	**9 (3)**	**6 (10)**	**1 (5)**	**7 (1)**	**10 (4)**	**4 (7)**	**8 (6)**	**6.1**	**9**
AB	n/a	1	2	7	8	8	1	6	4	10	2	2	2	2	10	6	4.7	3
SK	n/a	5	10	10	6	5	8	1	2	3	4	8	1	9	2	3	5.1	4
MB	n/a	7	6	8	4	2	2	2	4	1	3	5	3	6	1	9	4.2	1
ON	n/a	10	8	5	7	9	4	5	4	7	10	4	8	8	7	7	6.9	10
QC	n/a	3	5	3	1	7	5	3	3	4	5	7	9	7	5	10	5.1	4
NB	n/a	4	7	9	5	1	3	9	4	5	8	10	6	5	8	5	5.9	8
NS	n/a	6	4	4	3	3	6	10	4	8	7	6	10	4	6	4	5.7	7
PE	n/a	9	3	6	9	4	7	8	4	2	1	3	4	1	3	1	4.3	2
NF	n/a	2	1	1	10	6	9	7	4	6	9	9	5	3	9	2	5.5	6
Period Progress Rank (BC's prior rank is shown in brackets)																		
Period	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992/93 - 2001/02	1992/93 - 2001/02	1993 - 2002	1992/93 - 2001/02	1992/93 - 2001/02	1992 - 2001	1991 - 2000	1992 - 2001	1991 - 1999	1992 - 2001		
BC	**10 (10)**	**10 (10)**	**10 (9)**	**8 (7)**	**8 (9)**	**10 (10)**	**8 (6)**	**1 (2)**	**3 (9)**	**9 (4)**	**7 (7)**	**9 (10)**	**3 (3)**	**5 (3)**	**7 (7)**	**7 (4)**	**7.2**	**10**
AB	3	2	6	5	5	9	1	2	1	1	9	1	7	10	9	9	5.0	2
SK	8	7	9	10	2	7	2	9	2	2	4	6	10	9	4	4	5.9	7
MB	9	8	3	9	6	5	3	8	4	10	5	4	9	7	5	6	6.3	8
ON	6	9	8	6	4	6	7	3	6	3	2	8	4	6	3	3	5.3	5
QC	4	4	4	7	3	4	9	5	9	5	6	10	1	2	1	10	5.3	5
NB	5	1	2	4	9	3	6	6	5	4	1	7	8	3	10	8	5.1	4
NS	7	5	7	3	7	8	5	7	8	7	10	2	6	8	6	5	6.3	8
PE	2	6	1	2	10	2	10	10	7	8	8	5	5	1	2	1	5.0	2
NF	1	3	5	1	1	1	4	4	10	6	3	3	2	4	8	2	3.6	1

Note on Table: An arithmetic average and "overall indicative rank" are included for summary comparison purposes only. Each core target and performance indicator should be viewed independently with more emphasis being placed on the three "core target" measures for comparing British Columbia's overall economic performance relative to other provinces.

PROGRESS

Core Target 1 Economic Growth — Economy, Innovation and Education

Growth Rate of Real GDP Per Capita, BC and Canada, Annual Percentage Change



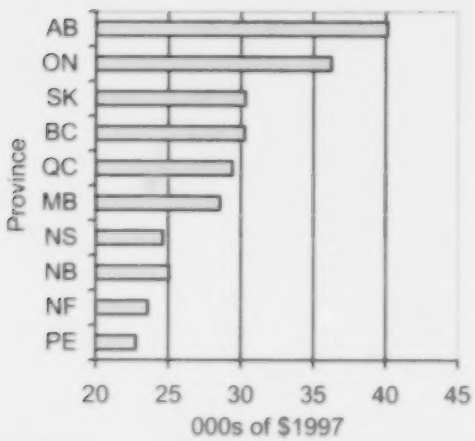
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

Economic growth (i.e., the change of real GDP per capita) is a key measure of economic prosperity, expressed in terms of the value of output (goods and services produced) per person.

Gross Domestic Product is the value added to the economy by current productive activities of individuals, businesses, governments and non-residents (who may purchase and sell goods and services to British Columbians).

Level of Real GDP Per Capita



Why it's Important

The growth rate of real GDP per capita is an effective measure of changes in the prosperity of a jurisdiction and its population. Slower growth in real GDP per capita results in lower levels of purchasing power, real personal income, and real wages and salaries. If real GDP per capita increases faster than the population, then the size of the "economic pie" is growing on a per person basis.

Where BC Ranks* (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **10th (5th)****

Period Progress Rank (1992 - 2001) – **10th (10th)**

How Does BC Compare?

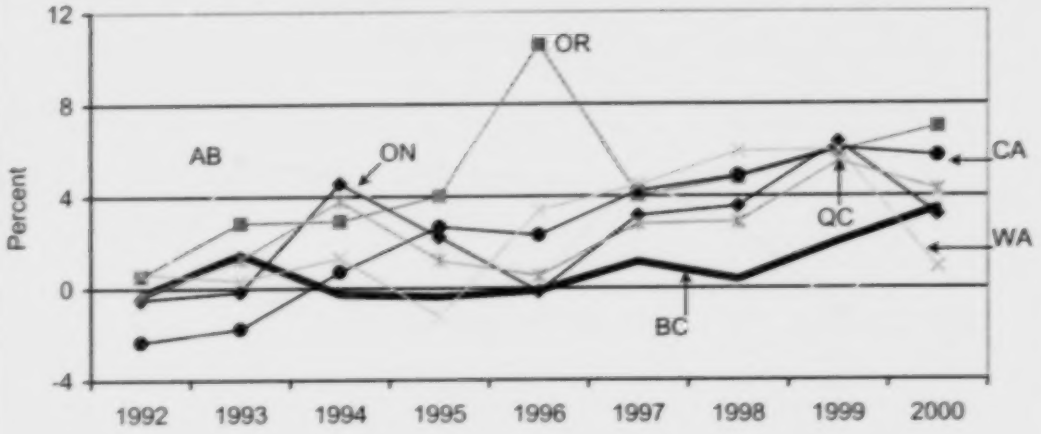
British Columbia posted the smallest gains in real GDP per capita between 1992 and 2001 and recorded the lowest growth between 2000 and 2001 among the provinces. From 1992 to 2001, BC experienced average annual growth of 0.6%, compared to 2.3% in Alberta and Quebec and 2.2% in Ontario.

In 2001, BC's level of real GDP per capita was fourth among provinces at $30,252, versus the Canadian average of $33,058. In comparison, real GDP per capita stood at $40,112 in Alberta, $36,256 in Ontario, and $30,312 in Saskatchewan.

Notes: *The 1-Year Progress Check has been removed. This indicator ranks the variable's year-to-year growth whereas most indicators rank the variable's level. It is difficult to apply a useful interpretation to the 1-year Progress Check for this variable. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to Statistics Canada's switch to the Fisher index formula to calculate real GDP. Refer to Appendix C: Methodology for more information on this change.

Core Target 1 — Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Economic Growth (Growth Rate of Real GDP Per Capita)



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Description:
This indicator is a measure of the growth rate of goods and services produced per person in a province or state. It is employed as a measure of the relative change in the "standard of living" across geographic areas. Regions with higher growth rates of per capita GDP experience greater improvements in standard of living.

Where BC Ranks* (And Last Year's Rank)
By Jurisdiction (2000) – **5th (6th)**
Period Progress Rank (1991-2000) – **7th (7th)****

How Does BC Compare?
BC compares quite poorly in terms of this measure of changes in living standards, and in fact has posted the weakest overall performance through the 1990s. Throughout the 1990s, BC has lagged the three provinces and three states considered. Among the top three jurisdictions, Oregon posted the best average year-to-year growth in real GDP per capita at 4.2%, followed by Washington at 2.2%, and Alberta at 2.1%. Among the bottom four jurisdictions, British Columbia had the worst performance with average year-to-year growth in real GDP per capita of 0.5%, bettered by Ontario at 1.7%, Quebec at 1.8%, and California at 1.9%. British Columbia failed to share in the growth that took place in Canada and the United States during the 1990s.

On a positive note, British Columbia's 1999-2000 growth in real per capita GDP of 3.5% is the province's best performance of the decade and is much closer to the growth seen in other jurisdictions reviewed.

Notes: *The 1-Year Progress Check has been removed. This indicator ranks the variable's year-to-year growth whereas most indicators rank the variable's level. It is difficult to apply a useful interpretation to the 1-year Progress Check for this variable. **Revised rank. Statistics Canada's switch to the Fisher formula for the calculation of real GDP affected the Canadian data but did not affect the ranks. Refer to Appendix C: Methodology for more information on this change.

The Importance of Infrastructure to Economic Growth

Infrastructure such as transportation, utility and communication networks drive productivity and economic growth by making it easier, and therefore cheaper, to do business. Investment in infrastructure assists economic expansion by increasing productivity levels and enabling the extraction of more output from a given input of resources. Input costs are reduced, efficiency is enhanced, and rates of return to both public and private capital are increased. Physical infrastructure fuels economic development through facilitating access to new resources and raw materials and enhancing the mobility of final products, workers, and consumers. It also helps to ensure that an educated and informed workforce is able to both work and communicate efficiently and effectively.

BC is not lacking in basic infrastructure: we have an inexpensive supply of electricity; an award winning and convenient world class airport; expansive port facilities including the largest port on the West Coast of the Americas in terms of tonnes of cargo handled; extensive rail and road networks; and, sophisticated communications systems.

Assessing Infrastructure Levels and the Costs of Insufficient Infrastructure

Measuring infrastructure levels and effectiveness is by no means simple. With the term infrastructure encompassing a wide variety of sectors and services, no one measure adequately addresses its contribution and significance. Any analysis must look to indicators as diverse as corridor congestion ratios, trip speed and transit seat capacity used, airport facility utilization rates, and people with broadband access as a percent of the population. The performance track-record detailed in the table below leads to a conclusion that years of under funding capital projects has created an infrastructure deficit. An infrastructure system that is slipping behind other jurisdictions will rapidly become a constraint to BC's competitiveness, costing both jobs and economic growth.

Infrastructure Statistics

(This table provides a selection of useful capacity measures for given types of infrastructure, but is by no means exhaustive.)

Communications	**Broadband Access:** 44.3% of BC communities had broadband services as of February 2002.
Vancouver Airport (YVR) **Kelowna Airport (YLW)**	**Airside Facility Utilization (YVR):** 275,000 runway aircraft movements vs. annual runway capacity of 400,000 - 69% utilization rate in 2001 (reached 81% in 1998/99 and 93% in peak periods). **Terminal Building Utilization (YVR):** 15.5 million passengers vs. 17.0 million capacity - 91% utilization rate in 2001. **Runway Capacity:** approx. 50% overall, 100% in peak periods, 39,102 aircraft movements in 2001. **Terminal Capacity:** approx. 78% capacity in 2001 with almost 900,000 visits.
Rail Facilities	**BC Rail:** **Rail/ Freight Capacity:** current rail lines have excess capacity and no congestion is predicted for the near future. However, existing freight cars are experiencing 100% capacity during peak periods. **Terminal Capacity:** current congestion issues appear to be largely operational in nature.
Port Facilities	**Container Capacity:** currently at 70% capacity but predicted to be at 100% by 2005 if current growth of 15 to 20% per year continues. **Cruise Capacity:** currently at 100% capacity during peak times/ weekends. Revenue passengers predicted to double by 2010 if facility capacity allows.
Roadways	**Congestion:** six categories of congestion are used: from "A" (light) through "E" (very high) and "F" (severe). In the GVRD, 390 km of roads are at levels E and F during morning rush hour. While this is only 2.4% of the region's roads, it includes key arteries and all approaches to water crossings.

In the Lower Mainland congestion around the Vancouver International Airport, ports, border crossings, and other key transportation arteries is limiting the ability of trade and tourism to expand. In regional BC, economic development is restricted in many regions by deficient transportation networks and lack of broadband connectivity.

Continued on following page

Transport Canada estimates the loss from reduced speeds, increased travel times, and greater fuel consumption resulting from insufficient infrastructure to be between $500 million and $1.3 billion annually in BC.* Other costs, while not priced so readily are of importance to BC residents. Noise and air pollution and reduced safety also affect the quality of life BC residents enjoy.

Limits to Productivity Gains from Infrastructure

Despite a great number of studies that support the claim that infrastructure is important for economic growth, actual productivity effects are hotly debated. While a number of projects will have long-term economic benefits that far outweigh their costs, there is no direct correlation between the level of expenditure and a project's economic rate of return. Higher infrastructure spending will not automatically increase productivity. In fact, the economic effects of capital expenditure are often negligible, if felt at all. Reasons for such distortions are many. First and foremost, infrastructure is expensive. In order to build infrastructure both financial and other resources must be diverted from other productive uses. If infrastructure levels are set too high investment will be diverted from other capital projects, effectively slowing economic growth. Therefore, it must be recognized that infrastructure can only drive productivity to a point, after which the opportunity costs of lost investment in alternative projects outweigh the potential gains from increasing infrastructure.

Infrastructure projects are often utilized as a means of achieving "distributional" objectives, i.e., to draw businesses to relatively underdeveloped areas. While well intentioned – and sometimes necessary – such efforts often have the effect of simply transferring or redistributing resources from one region or use to another. Such projects often encourage businesses and residents to locate in areas where they are unable to take advantage of efficiency enhancing economies of scale in labour, inputs and information resources – thus potentially reducing total economic output, productivity and, ultimately, growth. Jobs and expansion driven by new infrastructure thus often come at the expense of growth elsewhere – with no net productivity increase.

Funding Economically Viable Projects

Often missing from infrastructure investment decisions is a thorough examination of the economic costs and benefits of the project in question. One method of attempting to ensure that appropriate incentives are applied to infrastructure spending is using private capital for selected projects. Public Private Partnerships (P3's) are one method whereby governments around the world have benefited from engaging the private sector in providing public infrastructure. Through such partnerships governments can benefit from the private sector's expertise in infrastructure development, while permitting the functioning of market incentives that encourage creativity, innovation and cost effective delivery of services. Relying on private funding enables governments to free up capital for alternative projects while transferring a great deal of the risk inherent in such projects to the private sector.

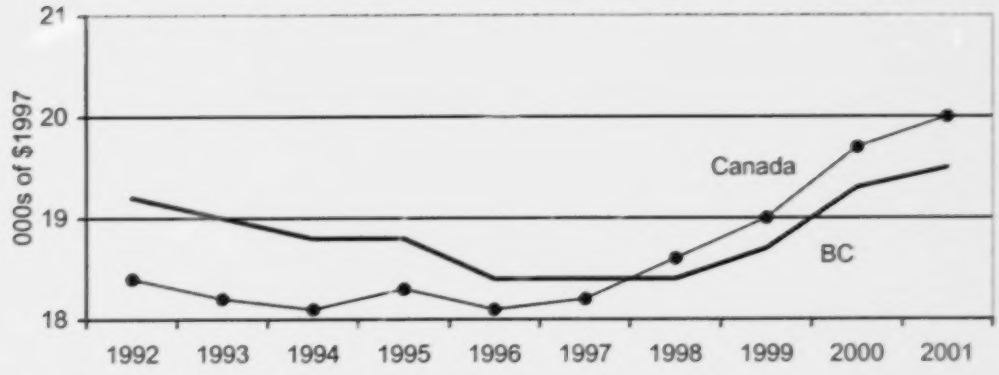
But P3's won't solve the distributional problems inherent in infrastructure investment. In order to ensure that projects are in fact enhancing the overall well-being of British Columbians – rather than simply reallocating existing jobs and resources – a holistic analysis must be incorporated into project approvals at all levels. Cellular decision making in the infrastructure planning process along regional lines, as well as modal lines in the case of transportation and communications, means that decisions made in one area can have an adverse effect on economic growth elsewhere. Project evaluation must therefore include not only a rigorous business case analysis, but also take into consideration the potential costs and benefits for the growth of a region as a whole, replacing "wants" with long-term needs-based planning. Through rigorous evaluation of all expected and potential costs and risks and returns of a project, as well as keeping project spending within fiscal limits, many pitfalls may be avoided and infrastructure can be effectively utilized as a key tool in facilitating economic growth across BC.

***Sources:**

Transport Canada, July 2002;
"Premier's Technology Council, Second Quarterly Report", April 2002;
Vancouver International Airport Authority, July 2002;
Kelowna International Airport, July 2002;
BC Rail, July 2002;
Vancouver Port Authority, July 2002;
GVTA (Translink) Strategic Planning Department, July 2002.

Core Target 2 Standard of Living Economy, Innovation and Education

Real Personal Disposable Income Per Capita, BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

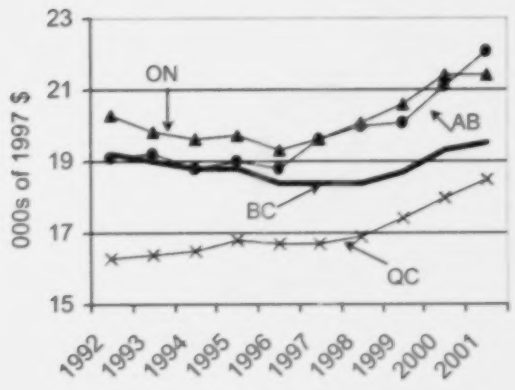
Description

Real personal disposable income per capita represents total income minus certain taxes paid to all levels of government (e.g., income taxes, contributions to social security, etc.) and various fees such as medical insurance premiums, measured in 1997 dollars and expressed on a per person basis. It includes income earned by all residents of the province, regardless of where it was earned.

Why it's Important

Real personal disposable income per capita provides an accurate indication of individuals' spending power and standard of living.

Provinces - Real Personal Disposable Income Per Capita



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **3rd** (**3rd**)
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **8th** (**5th**)*
Period Progress Rank (1992 - 2001) – **10th** (**10th**)

How Does BC Compare?

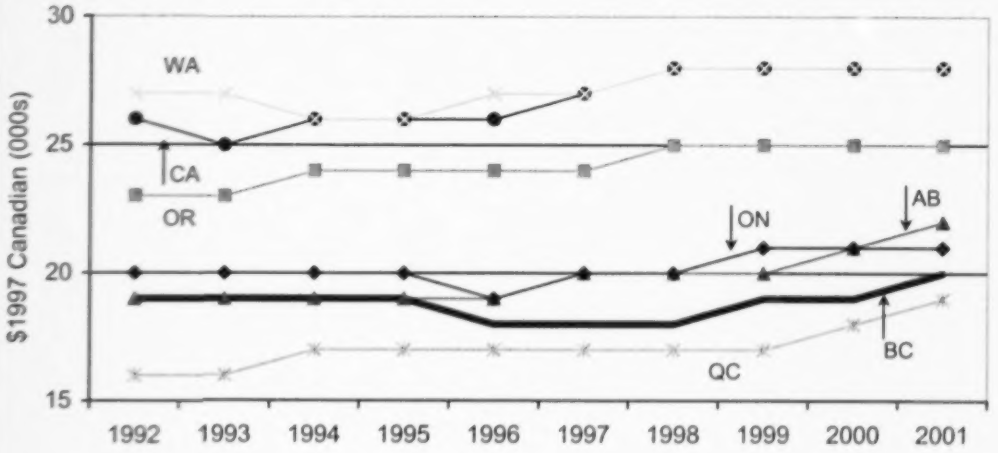
In 2001, British Columbia had the third highest real personal disposable income per capita in Canada at $19,513. In 1992, it ranked second among the provinces at $19,237, behind Ontario ($20,346) and ahead of Alberta ($19,058). Alberta trailed BC by $179 in 1992, but by 2001 it enjoyed a $2,606 lead over BC. In 1992, BC's real personal disposable income per capita was $822 above the Canadian average of $18,415. BC remained above the national average until 1998, when it began to fall behind. In 1998, BC was $153 below the average and by 2001 it was $510 below the average.

Real personal disposable income per capita grew by 1.4% in BC between 1992 and 2001. BC had the smallest increase among the provinces; the national average growth was 8.7%. Four provinces (Alberta, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador) had growth above 12.0% over this time period.

BC's poor record on this key measure reflects its weak economic performance over the 1990s. Personal income tax cuts in 2001 at both the provincial and federal levels helped to improve BC's position.

Note: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

Standard of Living
(Real Personal Disposable Income Per Capita - $1997)



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis; US Census Bureau.

Description:
This indicator is a measure of the amount of income earned from various sources by persons after the payment of direct taxes and social insurance contributions to governments. This measure is adjusted for inflation, so it captures changes in the purchasing power of income over time.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (2001) - **6th (6th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) - **3rd (4th)**
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) - **7th (7th)**

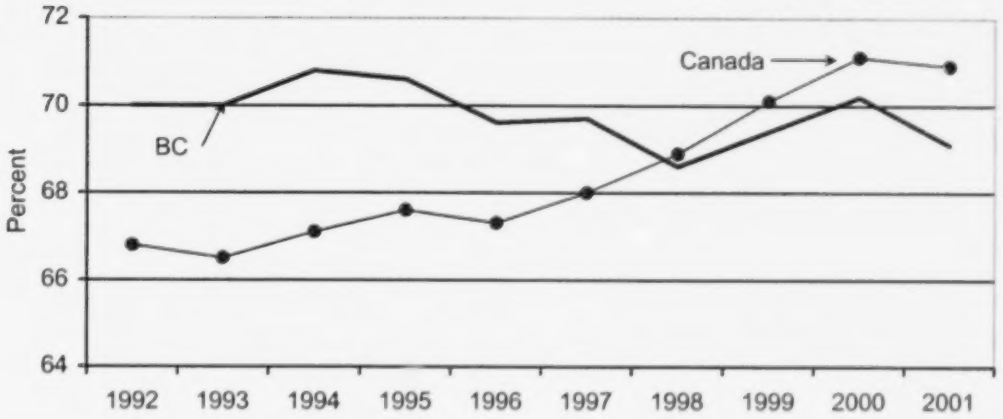
How Does BC Compare?
British Columbia ranked second to last on this indicator in 2001. Of the provinces, Ontario has generally had the highest real personal disposable per capita income followed by Alberta. In 2001, Alberta had the highest real personal disposable income per capita among the provinces at $22,119. Alberta was followed by Ontario at $21,378 and BC at $19,513. British Columbia's real personal disposable per capita income grew by 1.4% from $19,237 in 1992 to $19,513 in 2001. The other jurisdictions had increases ranging from 3.0% (Washington) to 16.1% (Alberta).

Residents of California, Washington, and Oregon have much higher real personal disposable incomes than Canadians. These states have an overall lower tax burden and incomes are higher in the US than in Canada. The gap in real personal disposable income per capita between BC and the states reviewed ranges from $5,473 (Oregon) to $8,455 (California).

Notes: The PPP exchange rate has been revised since the 2001 Report, and when combined with data revisions the State values have increased between 0.3% and 5.4%.

Core Target 3 Jobs — Economy, Innovation and Education

Employment Rate (Ages 15 to 64), BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

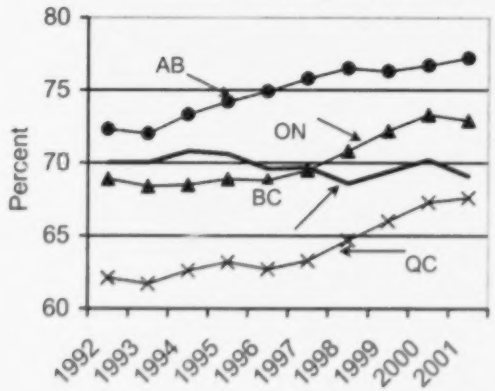
Description

This indicator shows, for the population aged 15 to 64 years, the number of employed persons (i.e. working for pay or profit, doing unpaid work contributing to the operation of a family farm or business) expressed as a percentage of the total.

Why it's Important

The employment rate is an effective measure of the rate of labour utilization. Higher labour utilization traditionally accompanies strong economic activity.

Provinces - Employment Rate



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **6th (5th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **9th (6th)**
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **10th (9th)***

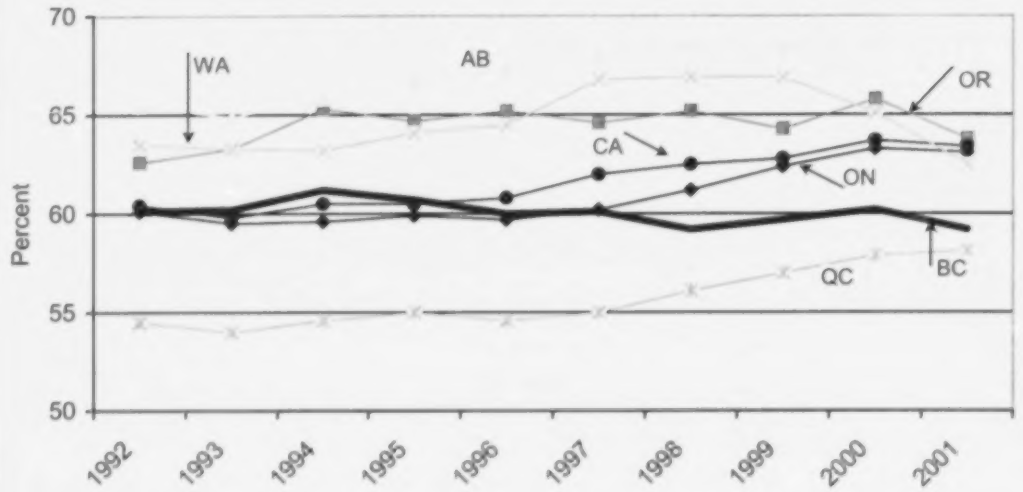
How Does BC Compare?

From 1992 to 2001, BC consistently stayed in the mid-range for the employment rate in Canada. In 1992, it ranked fourth overall in Canada with a rate of 70.0%, compared to 72.3% in Alberta and 68.9% in Ontario. The Canadian average in 2001 was 70.9%, compared to 77.2% in Alberta and 72.9% in Ontario. In 2001, BC lagged behind the leading provinces with an employment rate of 69.1%, placing it sixth overall in Canada.

Until 1998, BC had an above average employment rate within Canada, but it has lagged since. The cumulative effect of strong economic performance elsewhere in Canada (especially in Ontario and Alberta) and sub-par growth in BC, continues as the primary reason for this result.

Note: *Rank does not match the one in the 2001 Report.

Jobs (Employment Rate - 16 yrs.* and over)



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Labour Statistics.

Description:
The employment rate is the percentage of people aged 16 and older that are employed in a jurisdiction. This indicator is a general measure of the ability of a jurisdiction to create work for its population, as well as the desire of its population to participate in the labour force. The latter desire is influenced by such factors as the age distribution of the population and after-tax earnings from work, while the ability to create work is determined by the relative cost of labour and the output performance of the economy.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)**:
By Jurisdiction (2001) – **6th (6th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **5th (5th)**
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **7th (7th)**

How Does BC Compare?
The employment rate fell in four jurisdictions between 2000 and 2001; BC had the third largest decrease. British Columbia has ranked near the bottom for the past decade and missed out on the improvement experienced in California, Ontario, and Quebec in the late 1990s. Alberta has had the highest ratio in every year reviewed. Over the last decade, the employment rate in BC and Oregon remained relatively constant, while in Quebec, Ontario, Alberta, and California the rate trended upward.

Notes: *Government statistical agencies in Canada and the United States use different measures of the employment rate. In Canada people aged 15 years and over are included for both population and employment, while in the United States people aged 16 years and over are included. While this small difference will have some impact on comparisons between the countries, it is unlikely to result in significant differences, other things being equal.
**Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because two additional years of data are available for this report.

Historical Comparison*

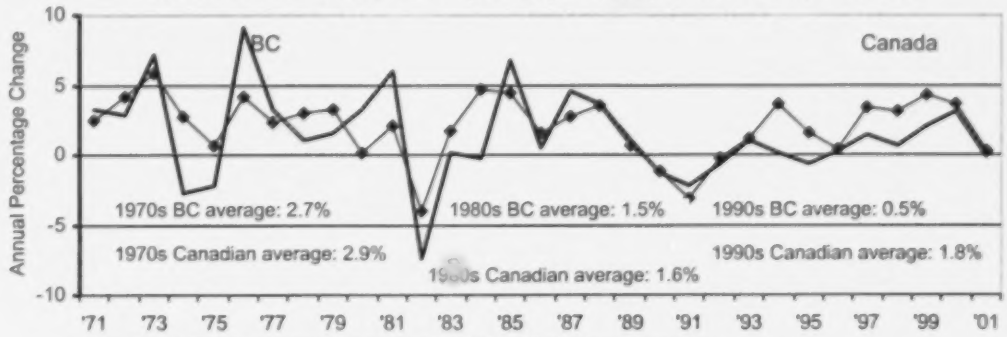
Description:
These figures illustrate data from 1971 through 2001 for the first three Core Targets: economic growth, standard of living, and jobs. Two interesting facts are revealed in this long-term analysis. First, BC's performance on growth in real GDP per capita and real personal disposable income per capita has been worsening and was especially weak in the 1990s. Second, BC's performance has been deteriorating relative to the national average on these two core indicators. Taken together, these facts suggest that BC has structural as well as cyclical and unique short-term economic challenges.

Core Target 1: Economic Growth

Average annual growth in real GDP per capita in BC was 2.7% during the 1970s, 1.5% in the 1980s and 0.5% in the 1990s. In 1970, BC's real GDP per capita was $19,603. It grew by 29.8% to $25,442 in 1980, a further 14.6% to $29,156 in 1990 and a meagre 5.0% to $30,606 in 2001.

British Columbia's average annual growth was 94.1% of Canada's average annual growth in the 1970s, 88.4% of Canada's average annual growth in the 1980s and 28.5% of national average annual growth in the 1990s. In 1970, BC real per capita GDP was $1,847 higher than the Canadian level. The difference was roughly the same ($1,931) in 1980 but had fallen to $1,562 by 1990. The BC advantage fell to $60 in 1995 and then turned negative to such a degree that BC's real GDP per capita was $2,401 *below* the national average in 2001.

Growth Rate of Real GDP ($1997) Per Capita for BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Core Target 2: Standard of Living

Average annual growth in real PDI per capita in BC was 5.3% during the 1970s, 0.7% in the 1980s and *negative* 0.6% in the 1990s. In 1970, BC's real PDI per capita was $11,265. It grew by 67.2% to $18,839 in 1980, a further 7.0% to $20,166 in 1990 and then *shrank* by 5.0% to $19,151 in 2001.

British Columbia's average annual growth in real PDI per capita was 28.2% greater than Canada's average annual growth in the 1970s, 54.9% of Canada's average annual growth in the 1980s and shrank during the 1990s while national average annual growth was 0.4%.

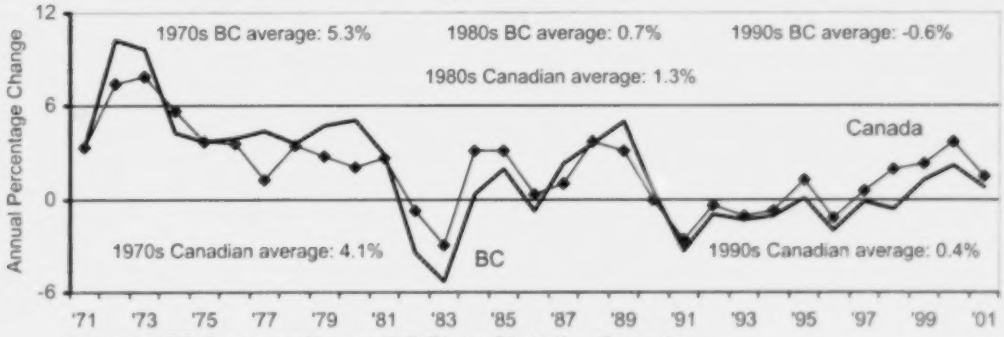
Note: *These data differ slightly from those found elsewhere in the report. Statistics Canada did not produce pre-1981 data when they revised the calculation of GDP. To maintain consistency between the pre- and post-1981 data, the older dataset is used here.

Continued on following page.

Historical Comparison (continued)

In 1970, BC real PDI per capita ($11,265) was essentially the same as the Canadian level ($11,140). British Columbia had strong growth in real PDI per capita in the 1970s and the $125 difference present in 1970 grew to $2,166 by 1980. This shrank to $1,183 by 1990 and continued to shrink to $271 in 1997. From 1998 onward BC's real PDI per capita has been below the Canadian average and the difference has grown every year such that BC's level was $848 *below* the national average in 2001.

Growth Rate of Real PDI ($1997) Per Capita for BC and Canada



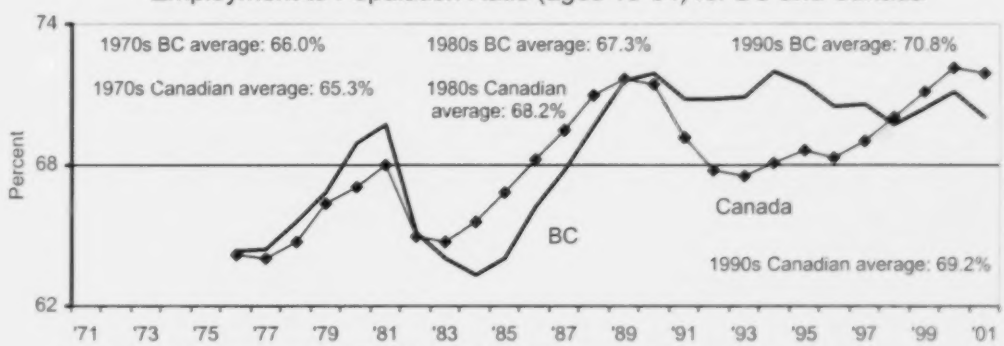
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Core Target 3: Jobs

In contrast to its performance on the other economic core target indicators, BC's performance on the employment rate shows some improvement since the 1970s and little deterioration over the 1990s. The average employment to population ratio in BC was 66.0% between 1976 and 1980, 67.3% in the 1980s and 70.8% in the 1990s.

The performances of British Columbia and Canada are similar on this core target indicator. From 1976 through 1990, the national average and BC's indicator values moved more or less in unison and were never further than 5.4% (3.9 percentage points) apart. In the 1990s, BC's ratio remained relatively flat while Canada's dipped and returned such that by 1998, Canada's ratio was above BC's.

Employment to Population Ratio (ages 15-64) for BC and Canada

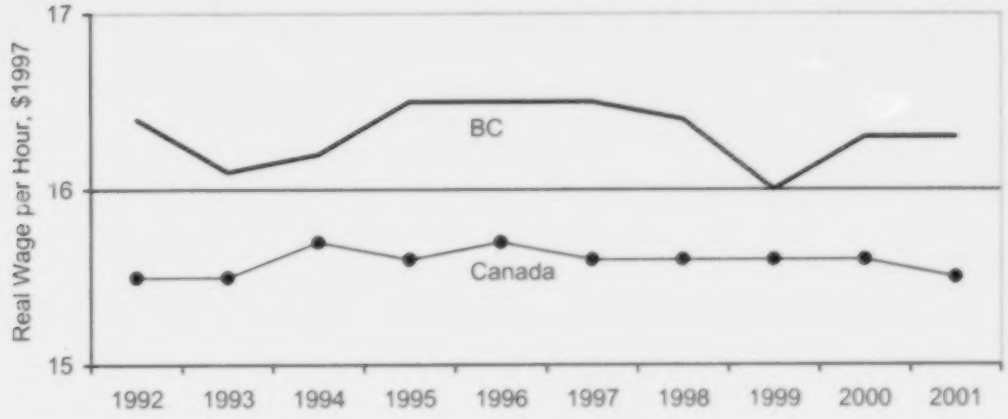


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 1 Real Average Hourly Wage — Economy, Innovation and Education

Real Average Hourly Wage in BC and Canada, $1997

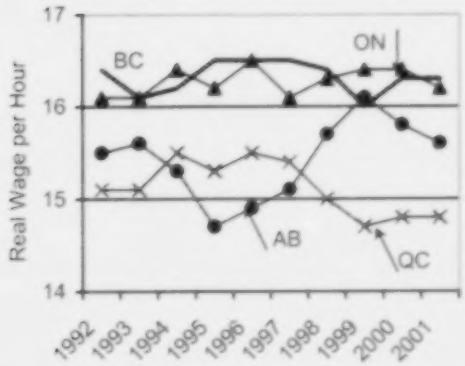


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description
This indicator measures inflation-adjusted average hourly wages earned by workers and is calculated and ranked from the worker's point of view.

Why it's Important
Real average hourly wages are a useful measure of individual prosperity. Flat real wages indicate that wage earners are simply keeping up with increases in living expenses.

Provinces - Real Hourly Wage



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)
By Province (2001) – **1st (2nd)***
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **2nd (1st)***
Period Progress Rank (1992 - 2001) – **8th (7th)***

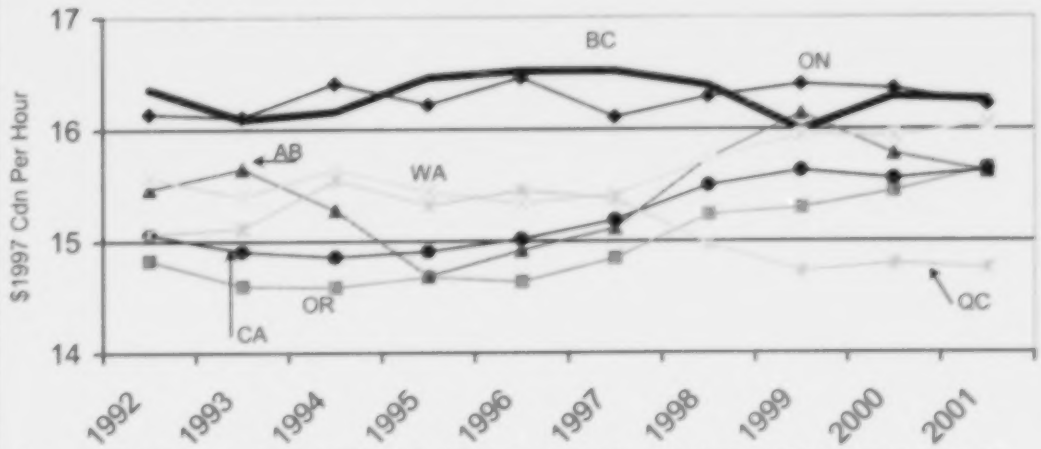
How Does BC Compare?
In 1992, British Columbia ranked first in Canada with a real average hourly wage of $16.36. In 2001, British Columbia again ranked first with a real average hourly wage of $16.26, ahead of Ontario at $16.22 and Alberta at $15.62. Between 1992 and 2001, Ontario had the highest real wage in four years and BC had the highest in six.

The real average hourly wage in BC fell by 0.6% between 1992 and 2001, which earned it a seventh place rank among the provinces. Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island had growth of close to 8.0%, Alberta saw growth of 0.9%, and Ontario's hourly wage grew by 0.5%.

Notes: *Does not match the 2001 Report due to data revisions. The 2001 Report used nominal figures; the figures presented above have been adjusted for inflation. The 2001 Report used data from both the Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours (SEPH) and the Labour Force Survey; the data above come solely from SEPH.

Performance Indicator 1 — Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Real Average Hourly Wage



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis; US Bureau of Labour Statistics.

Description:
This indicator measures the real average hourly wage earned by those workers whose basic wage is expressed as an hourly rate. Earnings are measured on an hourly basis to account for differences in average hours worked among the jurisdictions. From the point of view of workers, a higher wage rate in an area, other things being equal including the area's cost of living, suggests a better place to work. In the case of employers, other things being equal including labour productivity, a higher wage rate suggests a relatively high cost for doing business. This indicator is computed and ranked from the employer's point of view.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (2001) - **7th (6th)***
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) - **4th (7th)***
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) - **1st (3rd)***

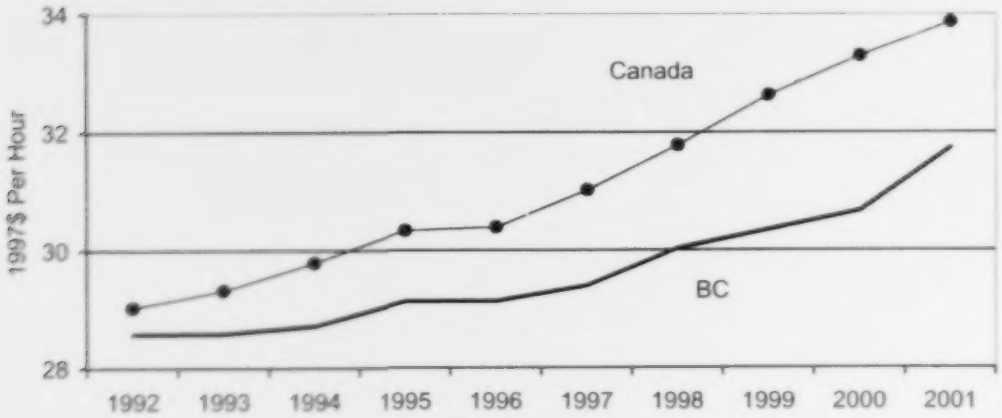
How Does BC Compare?
British Columbia has relatively high wages – when ranked from the perspective of employers – placing seventh for average real wage between 1992 and 2001. Real wage growth was small or negative between 1992 and 2001 in all the Canadian jurisdictions reviewed. Real wages grew by 5.5% in Oregon, 3.8% in California and 3.1% in Washington state over this period. British Columbia's real wage fell by 0.6% from $16.36 (all figures in 1997 Canadian dollars) in 1992 to $16.26 in 2001. The real wage grew in Ontario and Alberta by 0.5% and 0.9%, respectively, over the same time period. The real wage fell by 2.1% in Quebec, from $15.07 in 1992 to $14.76 in 2001.

Note: *Does not match the rankings in the 2001 Report due to data revisions. The 2001 Report used nominal figures; the figures presented above have been adjusted for inflation. The US data in the 2001 Report was derived from a "Combination of Industries" while the above data is derived from the same source as well as "1-Digit Industry Divisions" and national wage data. These changes improve the accuracy of the US data and it's comparability to the Canadian data.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 2 Productivity — Economy, Innovation and Education

Real GDP per Hour Worked (Business Sector), BC and Canada

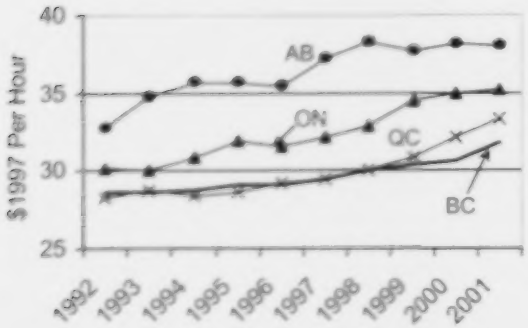


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

There are many different measures of productivity, but perhaps the best is real GDP per hour worked in the business sector. This is a good measure of the overall efficiency of the economy. Thus for every hour of labour in BC, workers produce a given amount of GDP.

Provinces - Productivity



Why it's Important

Growth in productivity is essential to improving income levels, public services and, ultimately, the standard of living. If productivity fails to increase, a jurisdiction's living standards will eventually decline.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **5th (5th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **2nd (8th)***
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **8th (9th)***

How Does BC Compare?

In 2001, British Columbia ranked fifth in Canada on this measure of productivity, a setback from the third place position it held in 1992. Alberta and Ontario held the number one and two ranks in 1992 and in 2001. Strong growth in Saskatchewan (28.0%) and Quebec (18.0%) coupled with relatively weak growth in BC (11.1%) between 1992 and 2001 allowed those two provinces to rank ahead of BC in 2001.

The gap between Alberta and BC widened between 1992 and 2001. In 1992, Alberta led BC in real GDP per hour (business sector) by $4.17 (14.6%); by 1998 the gap had increased to $8.21 (27.3%) and has since fallen to $6.29 (19.8%). Six provinces made gains on BC of between $0.34 and $3.87 in real GDP per hour (business sector) between 1992 and 2001. Three provinces had losses compared to BC, of between $0.46 and $2.78 over the same time period.

Notes: Data excludes government services and health and education, even though some are provided by the private sector. * Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

Productivity

British Columbia's productivity has fallen well below the Canadian average; a situation made even more critical by the fact that productivity growth in Canada has been slipping versus the U.S. and other global competitors over the past several years. Productivity measures the efficiency with which an economy's resources are converted into final goods and services. It gauges the amount of output that is produced by a given set of inputs (land, labour and capital) to the production process.

Through enabling businesses to produce more products and services without increasing input levels and costs, productivity gains serve to increase profits, boost wages and generally spur economic growth. As productivity enables firms to increase revenue without increasing prices – and can actually decrease unit labour costs – it allows an economy to achieve real growth without also inducing inflationary pressures. Interest rates can thereby be kept low, thus fueling further cycles of investment and growth.

Economic expansion, driven by productivity gains, is the cornerstone of any modern economy – spurring higher real wages and allowing for the funding of public goods and services such as health care, education, and infrastructure. Productivity is therefore commonly considered to be the most important element in increasing living standards over the long-term. As productivity growth has declined in BC so too have living standards.

While the reasons for growth or decline in productivity levels are multifaceted, Industry Canada research points to four key determinants.

Adjustment - The ability of an economy to shift production towards value-added, high-growth industries is critical for productivity growth. BC and Canada have been much slower to adapt from the traditional resource and manufacturing base to a knowledge-based economy than have the U.S. and many Asian and European economies.

Investment - Public investment in infrastructure and private investment in machinery and equipment enhance an economy's ability to quickly adopt new technologies, improve productivity and thrive in a competitive global marketplace.

Innovation - Through developing new products, processes and technologies innovation boosts the production capacity of an economy and is a key element of productivity.

Human Capital - Education, training and adequate health care all raise the productivity of the workforce. However, skills must be geared towards meeting the challenges of a knowledge-based economy, one that demands innovation and forward thinking.

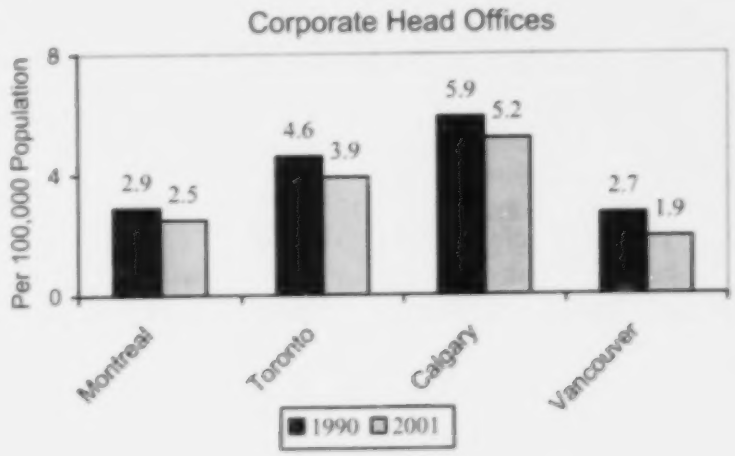
Several factors have played a role in reducing productivity growth in Canada and BC. One is the low Canadian dollar, which for a number of years has allowed firms to remain competitive on world markets without actually having to increase productivity. Another is the falling number of head offices located in BC, and in Canada more generally. Head offices often fuel productivity growth by stimulating local economies, providing high-income employment opportunities, and fueling innovation by encouraging a competitive domestic business environment (see topic box on facing page).

Creating the conditions necessary to stimulate productivity growth is an essential step in bringing about economic expansion in BC, and ultimately in raising the standard of living of all British Columbians.

Head Offices in Canada and BC

Head offices are important to a regional economy for several reasons. First, head offices bring high-skill, high-paying management jobs. This improves the tax base and job opportunities in the local corporate sector. Second, head offices purchase services from local suppliers such as lawyers, accountants, banks, communications and advertising firms, and computer and other consultants. Third, head offices tend to improve a region's productivity by fuelling innovation and encouraging a competitive domestic business environment. The presence of head offices, the accompanying management jobs and the resulting boost to the local service sector is self-reinforcing with the possibility of economies of scale when enough head offices spring up in one area.

British Columbia and Canada in general have been losing head offices in recent years. In 1990, Vancouver had 2.7 corporate headquarters per 100,000 population versus 2.9 in Montreal, 4.6 in Toronto and 5.9 in Calgary. The number of head offices has fallen in every city examined between 1990 and 2001 but the fall in Vancouver is the largest. By 2001, Vancouver had only 1.9 head offices per 100,000 population, a decrease of 31.3%. In comparison, Montreal had a 15.1% decline, Toronto a 14.8% drop, and Calgary had a 10.5% decrease. When considering these data, one should keep in mind that while a transfer of a corporate head office out of the province will likely have a negative effect, it may not mean that all of the operations of the company are moved from the province.

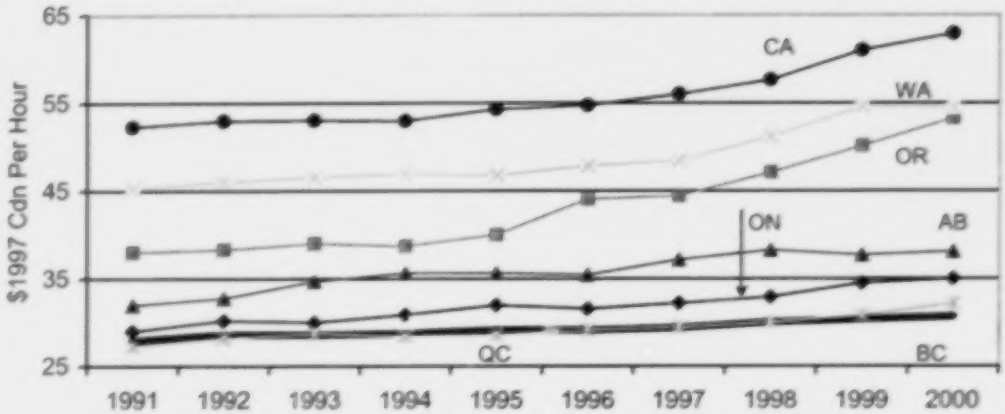


There are several reasons for a decrease in the number of head offices in a jurisdiction: a foreign or out-of-province firm may take over a local company and transfer the head office operations out of the jurisdiction; two local companies may merge and consolidate their operations at one location; and, a company may simply choose to relocate their headquarters to another province or country. According to "BC Business" and "Business in Vancouver", of the thirty-one head offices that BC "lost" between 1997 and 2001: twenty-one were bought by or merged with a company outside of BC; five were bought by or merged with a BC based company; and five moved their head office out of the province.

Notes: The data for the figure above is from the Financial Post's Business magazine, 1991 and 2001. The data on the number of head offices "lost" is from "BC Business" and "Business in Vancouver".

Performance Indicator 2 | Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Productivity



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis; US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

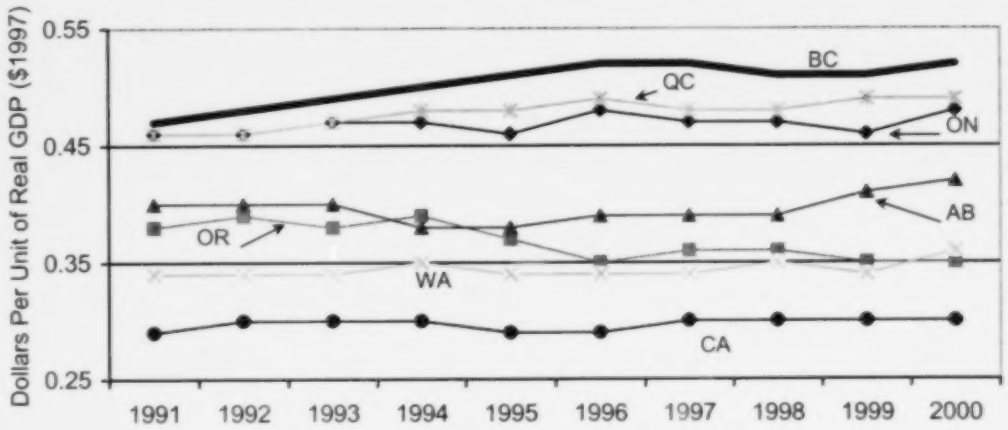
Description:
There are many different measures of productivity, but perhaps the best is real GDP per hour worked in the business sector. This is a good measure of the overall efficiency of the economy. For every hour of labour in a jurisdiction, workers produce a given amount of GDP. Productivity is the major determinant of real per capita GDP and a key determinant of living standards. Areas with higher productivity normally have higher wage rates, other things being equal.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (2000) – **7th (7th)***
1-Year Progress Check (1999-2000) – **6th (6th)***
Period Progress Rank (1991-2000) – **7th (7th)**

How Does BC Compare?
British Columbia ranks poorly on this indicator. In 2000, BC ranked seventh at $30.67 of GDP per hour behind sixth place Quebec ($32.16) and well behind first place California ($62.88). British Columbia's progress over the 1991-2000 period was the worst among the jurisdictions considered, posting growth of only 9.9%, half of most other jurisdictions and one-quarter of Oregon's growth. Among the four provinces considered, Ontario registered the largest 1991-2000 productivity growth at 20.7%, followed closely by Alberta at 19.2% and then by Quebec at 17.6%.

Notes: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions. The US data in the 2001 Report was derived from a "Combination of Industries" while the above data is derived from the same source as well as "1-Digit Industry Divisions" and detailed state level GDP data. These changes improve the US data and enhance its comparability to Canadian data.

Unit Labour Costs



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Labor Statistics; US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Description:
Unit labour cost is computed as the ratio of total wages and salaries paid to workers in the geographic area divided by real GDP for the area. The latter variable is a proxy for the total physical volume of goods and services produced in the economy, measured in constant (inflation-adjusted) 1997 Canadian dollars. Wages and salaries are measured in current (not inflation-adjusted) Canadian dollars.

This indicator measures the relative cost of labour adjusting for wage rates and productivity. It is often used as a measure of the relative competitive position of different geographic areas. Higher unit labour costs suggest a less competitive economy. This measure computes wage rates from an employer's point of view (i.e., a high unit labour cost earns a poor rank). Geographic areas with lower unit labour costs, other things being equal, will tend to be more competitive, and thus more successful in creating jobs and fostering economic growth.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (2000) – **7th (7th)***
1-Year Progress Check (1999-2000) – **5th (5th)***
Period Progress Rank (1992-2000) – **7th (7th)***

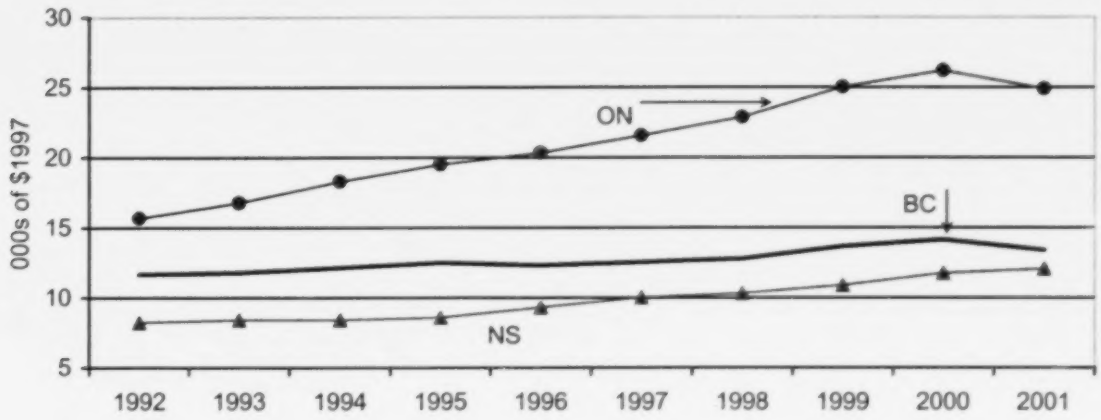
How Does BC Compare?
As a result of relatively high wage rates and low productivity, BC ranks last on this indicator in 2000 and for progress over the period 1992 through 2000. British Columbia beat out Ontario and Washington state for the smallest growth in unit labour cost between 1999 and 2000. Most jurisdictions saw unit labour costs rise between 1992 and 2000; BC had the largest increase at 10.0%. The smallest increase was in Alberta (3.2%) while Oregon saw a 6.5% decrease.

Notes: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because of the switch to "1-Digit Industry Divisions" plus "Combination of Industries" US data and Statistics Canada's switch to the Fisher volume method for calculating real GDP.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 3 · Exports — Economy, Innovation and Education

Total Exports of Goods and Services ($1997) Per Capita, BC and Highest and Lowest in Canada*

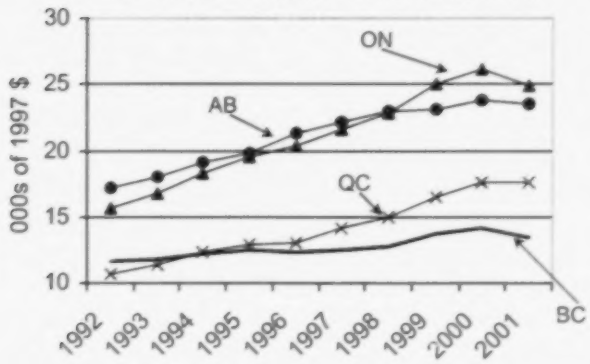


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description
This indicator measures the total amount of goods and services exported to international and inter-provincial jurisdictions from Canadian provinces, on a per capita basis.

Why it's Important
Strong exports tend to increase productivity and income levels in a jurisdiction due to additional markets available beyond the domestic market.

Provinces - Exports Per Capita ($1997)



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)
By Province (2001) – **7th (7th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **10th (5th)****
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **10th (10th)**

How Does BC Compare?
In 1992, BC posted total exports per capita of $11,663. By 2001, BC's exports per capita had climbed to $13,400, giving it a seventh rank among Canadian provinces. Between 1992 and 2001, BC's per capita exports increased by an annual average rate of 1.5%. This rate of growth was the lowest in Canada.

In comparison, Alberta increased its exports at an average annual rate of 3.8% over the period. This was the second smallest growth in Canada, but Alberta's exports in 2001 stood at $23,560 per capita, the second highest in the country.

Ontario's per capita exports rose at an annual average rate of 5.1% between 1992 and 2001, more than triple the growth rate for British Columbia. In 2001, Ontario had the highest per capita exports in Canada at $24,888.

Note: *A Canadian average is not available for this indicator because of Statistics Canada's switch to the Fisher index formula. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because of the switch to the Fisher formula. Refer to Appendix C: Methodology for more information on this change.

Export-led Growth: Reviving BC's Lagging Performance

The per capita GDP growth numbers for the last three decades make BC's poor relative economic performance abundantly clear. There are three or more years of growth rates below the Canadian average for every year we have grown faster than Canada. Any noticeable change in the long-term position of British Columbia is going to require an alignment of critical factors for economic growth well beyond what we might hope for within the usual ups and downs of the business cycle. A comparison with other economic jurisdictions that have turned the corner after lengthy secular decline shows that one potentially positive path to prosperity is to pay attention to exports. Could a refocusing on exports be an element in turning around a decline which is not just the result of a recent string of unfortunate circumstances?

Examples abound of sustained export-led economic progress. As well as the Asian tigers including Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Singapore, which have had average growth rates over sustained periods that are more than twice what we would consider normal, we have more recent examples such as Ireland. An important part of the success of China is also an export-based strategy, and many smaller eastern European states have revived their economies by realizing the importance of exports. More generally, the experience of successive expansions of the European Union is that economic progress has come with expanded trade, and few today would question the beneficial effects of the FTA and NAFTA for Canada as a whole.

In many ways, export success requires the same critical factors as those laid out in the Progress Board's initial benchmarking report: the necessary conditions, growth agents and enabling strategies (see Appendix D). For example, we need efficient transportation systems, competitive taxes, improved infrastructure and less onerous regulation. However, viewing exports as the growth driver directs attention to particular factors that are critical for British Columbia, a small resource-based open economy that is poorly diversified in production and markets.

The principle of comparative advantage, which is traditionally used to demonstrate the gains from trade, requires that countries specialize in products for which they have lower opportunity costs than their trading partners. The pursuit of comparative advantage means allowing some industries to expand while others shrink and possibly disappear. This means that while there is a gain in well-being on average over the years, there is also possibly more volatility in income. Volatility is driven by variations in terms of trade – prices of exports versus imports – and market conditions. That is, there is a potential trade-off from increased trade between mean income and volatility of income. The volatility in turn depends on the correlation between the sectors that thrive with trade. What are needed, therefore, for sustained, steady growth are industries that have low correlation, so rather than having a variety of resource industries, it is better to have a combination of service sector industries such as travel and bio-technology, alongside resource industries.

Recognition of the value of a diversified export-oriented economy does not imply policies aimed at diversification. Such policies rarely if ever work. Rather, it means that when reviewing the critical factors and enabling strategies, consideration is given to decisions that help broaden the range of economic activity. For example, education that is likely to support knowledge-based industries, especially higher education, might be chosen over improving transport links to resources when, as is often the case, difficult choices are being made over the allocation of public spending. The issue should be familiar to anyone who has considered the importance of diversification in their personal investments: we want our eggs in a variety of baskets that are not likely to be all dropped at the same time!

continued on next page

Export-led Growth: Reviving BC's Lagging Performance (Cont.)

Further aspects of an export-led reversal in BC's sagging economy of the last several decades are highlighted by the more eclectic theory of economic success that has been articulated by Michael Porter, namely, his principle of competitive advantage, which is not to be confused with the much older principle of comparative advantage. There are four main elements to this principle: good strategies and rivalry between competing firms, highly discriminating domestic consumers who force local suppliers to be world class, existence of the necessary "clusters" of related and supporting industries, and good endowments: this last item is, of course, the sole focus of comparative advantage. Being small, BC does not have the necessary range of competing firms needed to become internationally competitive, and we also lack large groups of discriminating buyers and the essential clusters of related and supporting industries: we are not positioned as well as, for example, Ontario or Quebec, in terms of the conditions for achieving competitive advantage in the global marketplace.

What is suggested by considering Porter's arguments is that an export-led reversal of our decades of relative decline will depend on activities where our specific disadvantages are small. For example, we would do better with services that are less affected by the absence of a cluster of related and supportive industries, since alliances are easily made when transportation and communication costs are not an issue: it can be almost as cheap today to call Asia or Europe as another town in British Columbia. Also, access to dispersed discriminating consumers is relatively easy with services, thereby enabling firms to keep ahead through trying to satisfy these consumers. Most international trade in services is based on knowledge, and so again, education is highlighted. Ireland is a contemporary example of how an educated workforce can be a critical factor for reversing economic trends: after suffering decades of decline, Ireland reversed its prosperity with a policy based on excellent higher education, along with competitive corporate and individual tax rates and an encouraging regulatory environment.

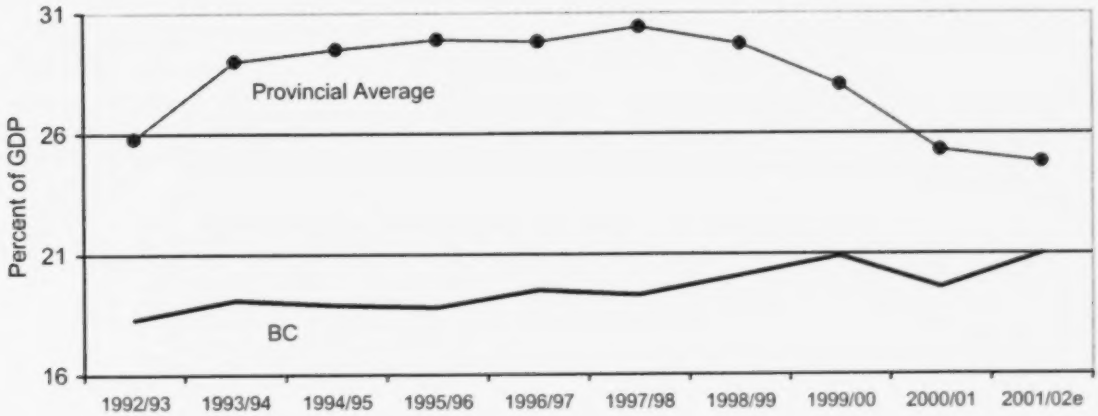
Diversity is required not only in what we have to sell, but also in where we sell it. While it is only natural that we would sell a substantial fraction of our exports to the United States, having a dominant buyer makes us vulnerable to the idiosyncrasies of the fortunes of that buyer, and the policies that buyer might select. Consequently, when it comes to considering critical growth factors such as transportation and achieving market access, the achievement of more diversified markets that are not highly correlated should also be a focus: we benefit from more diversified economic activity at home and more diversified markets abroad. This will, of course, involve the Federal Government which is responsible for international trade. All parties need to understand that a portfolio of industries and markets is less volatile than single industries and markets. Sellers also have more power when dealing with a buyer that lacks monopsony power – the power held by a single buyer.

Resource exports will, of course, always be essential to our well-being, especially in smaller towns and communities in so-called "Region 250" (i.e. outside of the Lower Mainland). So too will be the processing of natural resources. However, we live in a world in which more and more value-adding activity comes from services: services are approximately 70 percent of the US and Canadian economies, and the fastest growing component in world trade. There are ways in which we can help British Columbians participate in the new growth areas. An export-based strategy should be part of any overall plan. It is possible to reverse the trend of relative decline. The answer lies in the world outside British Columbia and Canada.

Source: Maurice Levi, Bank of Montreal Professor of International Finance, University of British Columbia.

Performance Indicator 4 Debt Economy, Innovation and Education

Taxpayer-Supported Debt as a Percent of GDP, BC and Provincial Average

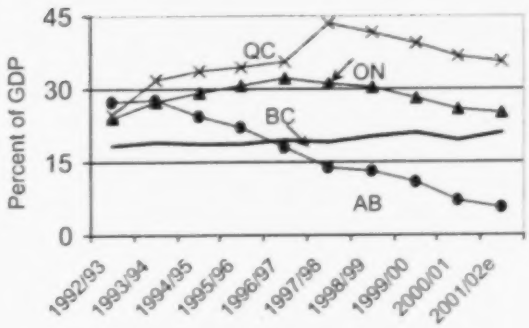


Sources: BC Progress Board; Statistics Canada; TD Economics.

Description

This indicator measures the net public debt burden as a proportion of gross domestic product (GDP). Taxpayer-supported debt includes government direct debt, and the debt of Crown corporations and agencies that require a subsidy from the provincial government.

Provinces - Taxpayer-Supported Debt



Why it's Important

Payments to service taxpayer-supported debt can consume a large portion of a jurisdiction's budget, thereby diminishing its capacity to provide public services. The debt burden is also an important indication of a jurisdiction's attractiveness for business investment.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001/02) – **2nd (2nd)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000/01-2001/02) – **10th (5th)**
Period Progress Rank (1992/93-2001/02) – **8th (6th)**

How Does BC Compare?

In 2001/02, British Columbia posted the second lowest taxpayer-supported debt as a percent of GDP at 20.9%, while Alberta ranked first in Canada at 5.6%. BC has seen an increase in taxpayer-supported debt relative to GDP since 1992/93, when the ratio stood at 18.3%, 7.5 percentage points below the provincial average. The difference in taxpayer-supported debt as a percent of GDP between BC and the provincial average peaked at 11.1 percentage points in 1997/98 and was only 3.7 percentage points in 2001/02

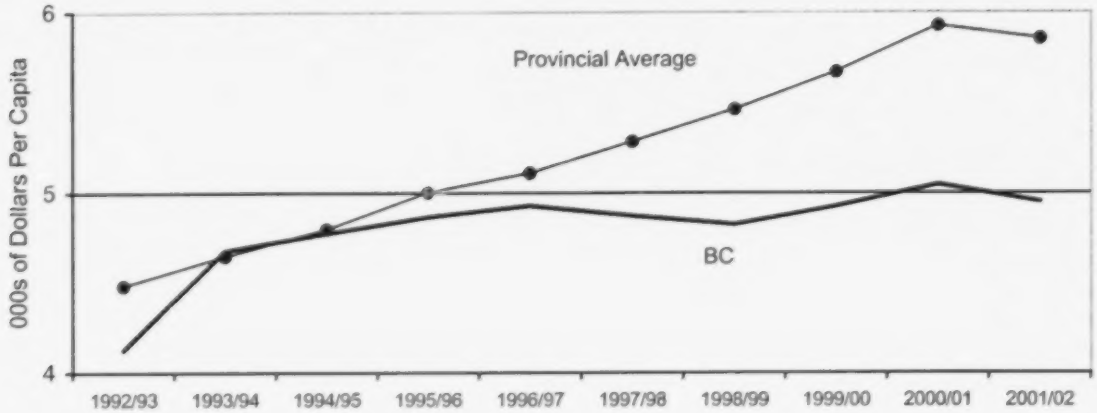
As of March 31, 2002, British Columbia's taxpayer-supported debt was $27.2 billion, or 76% of the province's total debt burden. The remaining 24%, or $8.7 billion, of BC's public debt is self-supported debt incurred by commercial Crown corporations and agencies that carry and repay their own debt*.

Note: *Debt Statistics 2001/02, BC Government, Ministry of Finance, 2002.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 5 Tax Burden — Economy, Innovation and Education

Per Capita Consolidated Tax Burden, BC and Provincial Average

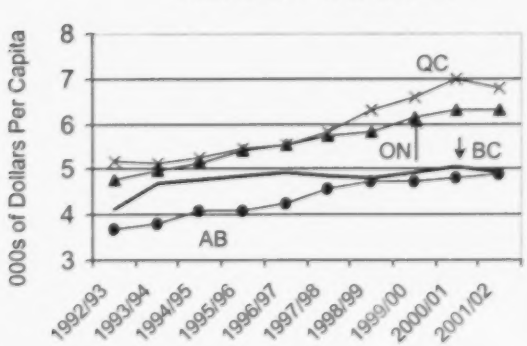


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator represents the combined tax burden from local and provincial sources, expressed on a per person basis. It includes: income taxes, consumption taxes, health insurance premiums, contributions to social insurance plans and other taxes (including payroll taxes, fees for motor vehicle licenses, natural resource taxes and licenses and other miscellaneous taxes).

Provinces - Tax Burden



Why it's Important

This indicator is a good summary measure of the "total" provincial and local tax burden, and along with other factors such as the regulatory burden, infrastructure quality, and access to quality health care and education, can help to determine business location and investment decisions.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001/02) – **6th (6th)***
1-Year Progress Check (2000/01-2001/02) – **4th (3rd)***
Period Progress Rank (1992/93 -2001/02) – **1st (2nd)***

How Does BC Compare?

BC posted the sixth lowest consolidated provincial and local government tax burden in Canada at $4,951 in 2001/02. From 1992/93 onward, BC experienced a 19.9% increase in the per capita (consolidated provincial-local) tax burden, the smallest increase in the country. Other than in 1993/94, BC stayed below the national average on this indicator. Since the mid-nineties the gap between BC and the national average has widened. In 2001/02, the Canadian average was $5,855, $904 more than in BC.

Alberta has consistently had a lower consolidated provincial and local tax burden than BC. From 1992/93 to 2001/02, BC saw the per capita consolidated provincial and local government tax burden rise by $822. In comparison, Alberta recorded an increase of $1,184, and Ontario posted an increase of $1,510.

Note: *Does not match rank in 2001 Report due to data revisions.

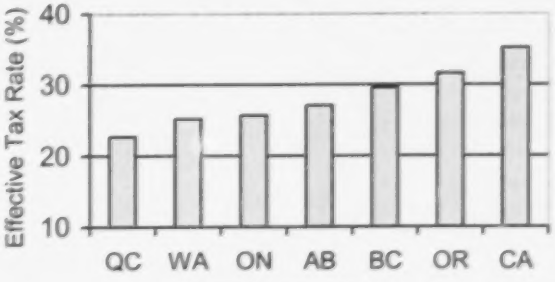
Business Tax Competitiveness

Corporate taxes are an important part of BC's revenue base and, therefore, an important source of funds for vital programs, services and infrastructure. The relationship between the tax system and government revenue appears simple at first glance – reducing taxes should reduce revenues and vice versa. Yet, in practice, tax cuts to high marginal and effective rates do not necessarily lead to a reduction in taxation revenues. Instead, tax cuts are often directly correlated with an increase in economic activity, thus leading to a subsequent *increase* in government revenues.

Tax cuts work to stimulate economic activity in a variety of ways*. First, lower taxes provide new and existing businesses with an incentive to invest capital in new projects and equipment, which drives growth. Second, lower taxes enhance the incentive of workers to work longer hours or to enter the workforce when they may not otherwise have done so. Third, lower taxes serve to attract the most mobile factors of production. In today's knowledge-based economy, firms, capital and skilled labour are much more mobile than ever before. With the reduced importance of location, these factors are free to locate wherever conditions are most favourable – often in areas where taxes are highly competitive.

Factor mobility has important implications for tax policy. Increasingly, tax policy decisions must take into careful account how tax levels compare relative to competing jurisdictions, both nearby and around the globe. A competitive tax system can help to attract mobile factors of production by reducing the cost of doing business. When judged against main Canadian competitors – Ontario and Alberta – B.C. does not perform well on the business tax front. Both Alberta and Ontario have announced plans to reduce their general corporate income tax rates from their respective 2002 levels of 13.0% and 12.5% to 8.0%. Ontario plans to have its new rate in place by 2006; Alberta had planned to be at 8.0% by 2005 but they did not include a schedule in their most recent budget. BC's 2002 rate is 13.5%, down from the 2001 rate of 16.5%. On a positive note, British Columbia's effective corporate income tax rate is 18.9% lower than California's and 6.8% lower than Oregon's. However, the rate is 8.4% and 13.2% higher than Alberta and Ontario rates, respectively.

Effective Corporate Income Tax Rates, 2002



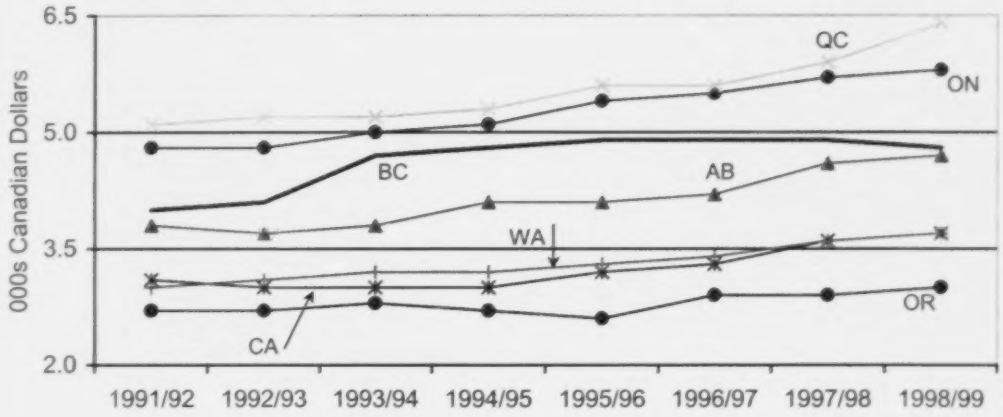
Source: KPMG (See ** below for note).

Notes: *See "http://bized.ac.uk/virtual/economy/policy/tools/income/inctaxth5.htm" for more information.
**Amounts are based on a 10 year snapshot of business costs in each location scaled relative to the significance of each cost item during the establishment, ramp-up and full operation phases, taken from Competitive Alternatives, Comparing Business Costs in North America, Europe and Japan dated January 2002. The amounts have not been updated to reflect changes in the underlying law or the administrative positions since the date of the study. See "Tax Competitiveness" in the glossary for more details.

Performance Indicator 5 | Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Per Capita Tax Burden – Consolidated Provincial (State) and Local Government*

Not Updated; see note below



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Census Bureau.

Description:
Per capita tax burden looks at the burden of combined provincial (state) and local taxes distributed on a per person basis.

Where BC Ranks:
By Jurisdiction (1998/99) – **5th**
1-Year Progress Check (1997/98-1998/99) – **1st**
Period Progress Rank (1991/92-1998/99) – **2nd****

How Does BC Compare?
In 1998/99, British Columbia ranked fifth with a per capita tax burden of $4,826. The two jurisdictions that ranked lower were both provinces. Ontario ranked sixth with a tax burden of $5,843 ($1,016 higher than BC's) and Quebec ranked last with a tax burden of $6,361 ($1,535 higher than BC's). Alberta's tax burden was $119 lower than BC's, earning it the fourth place rank.

The states had the lowest tax burdens. Oregon's taxpayers contribute just $2,996 each ($1,831 lower than in BC), earning it the top rank. Washington states' tax burden is $3,693 ($1,133 lower than BC's) and California's burden is $3,732 ($1,094 lower than BC's).

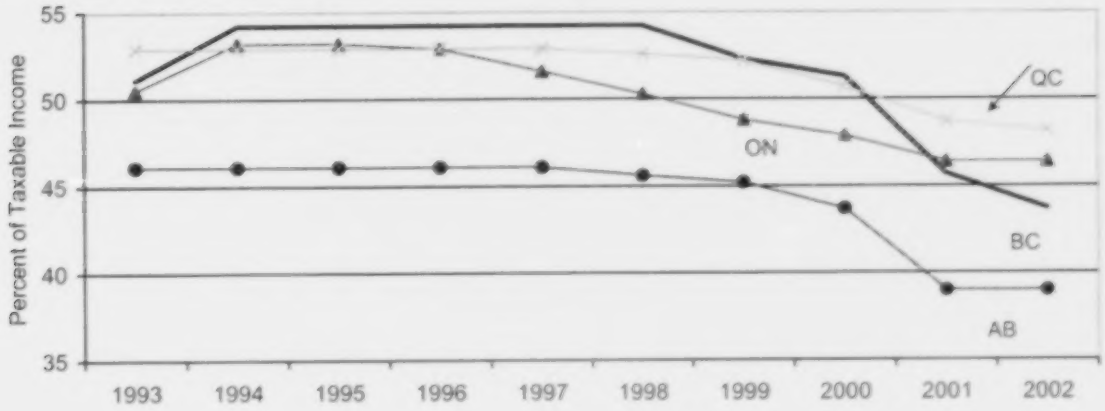
The tax burden increased between 1991/92 and 1998/99 in every jurisdiction. The smallest increase was 12.1% in Oregon, the largest was 24.5% in Washington state; BC was in the middle of the pack with an increase of 20.3%.

Notes: *Data updates for the states were not available at the time of printing. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 6 Tax Rate — Economy, Innovation and Education

Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate for British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Ministry of Finance; KPMG.

Description

The top marginal personal income tax rate is the combined federal-provincial income tax rate levied on the highest income bracket. The top rate takes effect at various income thresholds as noted in the box below.

Why it's Important

The top marginal (combined federal and provincial) income tax rate is a key factor in a jurisdiction's ability to attract and retain highly skilled workers and leading innovators. High marginal tax rates tend to discourage additional work effort and lessen the growth of real GDP. They may also discourage investment and increase the cost of living, other things being equal, since less income is available for saving and consumption.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2002) – **2nd (3rd)**
1-Year Progress Check (2001-2002) – **1st (1st)**
Period Progress Rank (1993-2002) – **3rd (9th)***

How Does BC Compare?

In 1993, BC had the fourth highest (federal-provincial combined) top marginal personal income tax rate in Canada at 51.1%. Alberta had the lowest top marginal tax rate at 46.1%, while Quebec had the highest at 52.9%.

From 1994 to 1998, BC had the highest top marginal personal income tax rate in Canada at 54.2%. Newfoundland was the closest province to BC with a rate of 53.3% between 1996 and 1998.

In 2002, BC's top marginal personal tax rate stands at 43.7%, second lowest in the country behind Alberta at a rate of 39.0%. The province of Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest 2002 rate at 48.6%. BC should maintain the second lowest position in 2003 given that only Saskatchewan has a firm commitment to reduce its top marginal personal income tax rate for 2003.

Federal and Provincial Top Marginal Tax Rates and Income Thresholds for Individuals - 2002

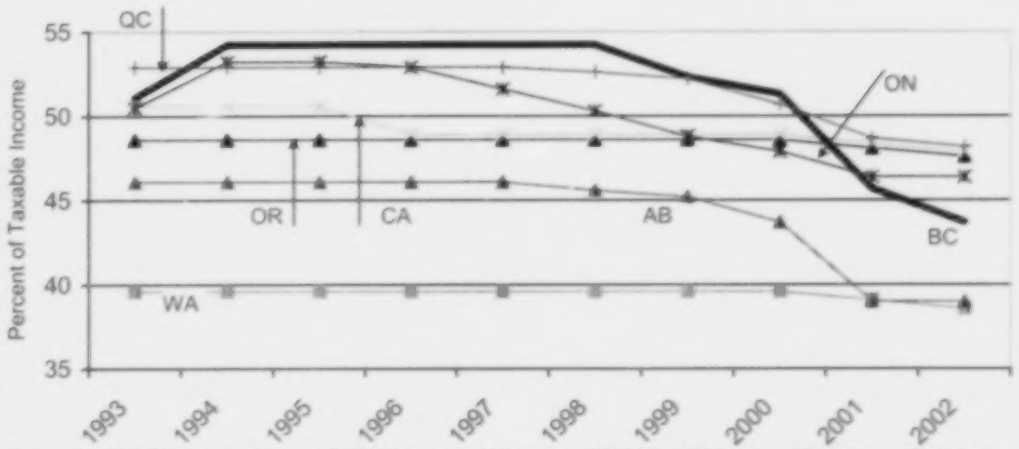
	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	PE	NF	Federal
Tax Rate	14.70%	10.00%	15.50%	17.40%	11.16%	24.00%	17.84%	16.67%	16.70%	18.02%	29.00%
Income Bracket	$86,786 and over	All income	$60,001 and over	$65,001 and over	$63,787 and over	$53,406 and over	$103,001 and over	$59,181 and over	$61,510 and over	$59,181 and over	$103,001 and over

Source: KPMG, Combined Federal and Provincial Top Marginal Tax Rates for Individuals and Federal and Provincial Tax Rates, Brackets and Surtaxes, Current as of June 20, 2002.

Note: *The rank has been revised.

Performance Indicator 6 | Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Ministry of Finance; KPMG; US Internal Revenue Service.

Description:

The top marginal personal income tax rate is the rate levied on individual taxpayers in the top income bracket for the next dollar of income earned. High tax rates discourage work effort and thereby reduce potential GDP. In addition, they make an area a less desirable place to live and invest in, other things being equal, since less after-tax income is available for consumption and saving.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):

By Jurisdiction (2002) – **3rd (3rd)***
1-Year Progress Check (2001-2002) – **1st (1st)***
Period Progress Rank – (1993-2002) – **2nd (2nd)***

How Does BC Compare?

On average, the lowest top marginal personal income tax rates are in Oregon, Alberta, and Washington state. From 1994 until 2000 British Columbia had the highest top marginal income tax rate with rates over 50%. Cross-border comparisons of income tax rates are complicated by the fact that top marginal rates in the US take effect at much higher incomes than in Canada. Canadian top marginal tax rates take effect at incomes over $103,000; US top rates do not apply until the taxpayer reaches a Canadian dollar income of $367,511.

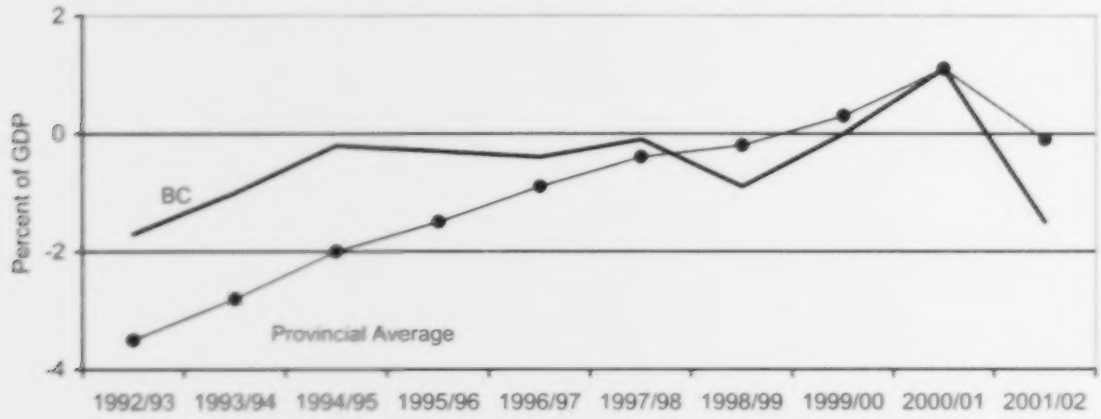
US Top Marginal Tax Rates and Income Thresholds, 2002	CA	OR	Federal
Income Threshold (single), $US	37,725	50,000	307,050
Income Threshold (single), $CDN	45,153	59,846	367,511
Top Marginal Tax Rate, %	9.3	9.0	38.6

Notes: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because we were able to add an extra year of data to this year's analysis. The top marginal personal income tax rate for California listed in the 2001 Report was 1.7 percentage points (3.5% - 4.2%) lower than the true value for 1992 through 1995. Washington state has no state personal income tax; the rates shown for Washington state are the applicable federal personal income tax rates. The 2001 PPP exchange rate was used for the threshold conversions presented above.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 7 Surplus/(Deficit) Economy, Innovation and Education

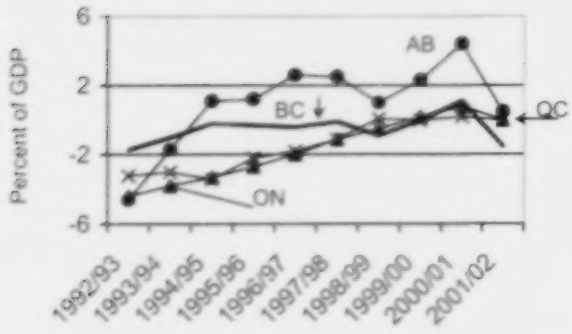
Surplus/(Deficit) as a Percent of GDP for British Columbia and the Provincial Average



Sources: BC Progress Board; Statistics Canada; TD Economics.

Description
This indicator is a simple measure of whether a provincial government is in a deficit or a surplus position, expressed as a percent of GDP.

Provinces - Surplus/(Deficit)



Why it's Important
Over time, successive deficits will increase the total debt level. Large portions of provincial budgets may then be required to finance accumulated debt burdens with money that could otherwise be spent on priority government programs or used to lower taxes.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)
By Province (2001/02) – **10th (2nd)***
1-Year Progress Check (2000/01-2001/02) – **9th (3rd)***
Period Progress Rank (1992/93-2001/02) – **9th (4th)**

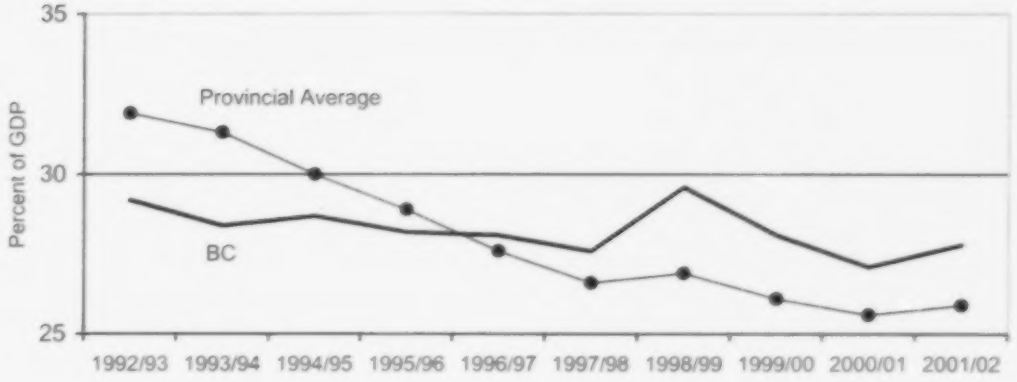
How Does BC Compare?
In 1992/93, BC had a deficit equivalent to 1.7% of GDP. The all province average in 1992/93 was a deficit of 3.5% of GDP. BC ran successive budget deficits between 1992/93 and 1999/00, before posting a surplus in fiscal year 2000/01 buoyed by sharp (and temporary) "spikes" in electricity and natural gas revenues. British Columbia posted the largest deficit as a percent of GDP among the four provinces that did not have surpluses in 2001/02.

Alberta and Saskatchewan both moved into surplus positions in fiscal year 1994/95, and have remained there since. In 2001/02, the all-province average was a deficit amounting to 0.1% of GDP. The 2002 BC Budget projects a $4.4 billion deficit in 2002/03. The Second Quarterly Report revised this projected 2002/03 deficit to $4.0 billion. If the forecast allowance is not needed to cover any unforeseen events the deficit could come in around $3.5 billion.

Note: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

Size of Government

Consolidated Local-Provincial Government Spending as a Percent of GDP, BC and the Provincial Average



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

Consolidated local-provincial government spending as a percent of GDP.

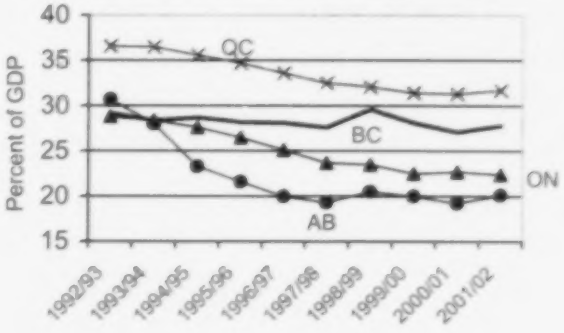
Why it's Important

Recent research* indicates that the relative size of a country's government sector may negatively affect competitiveness and increases in the size of government beyond the optimal point may produce little in terms of social progress.

Where BC Ranks

By Province (2001/02) – **3rd**
1-Year Progress Check (2000/01-2001/02) – **7th**
Period Progress Rank (1992/93-2001/02) – **10th**

Provinces - Government Spending



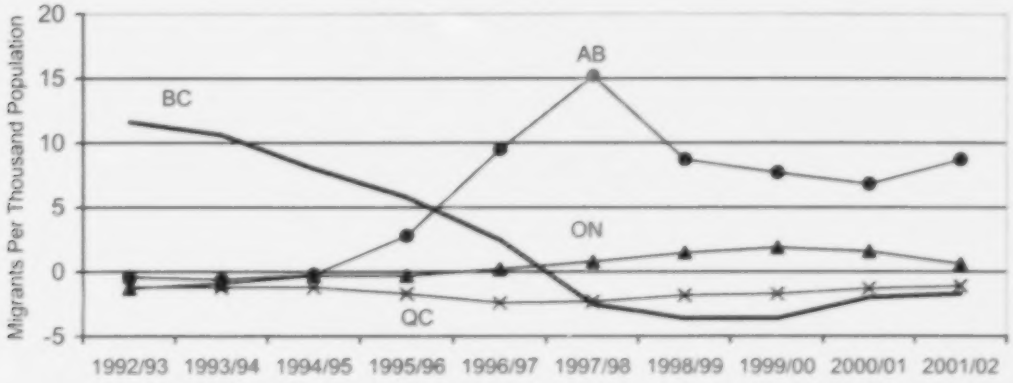
How Does BC Compare?

Although BC ranked 3rd in 2001/02, its government spending as a percent of GDP (27.8%) was above Alberta's (20.1%) and Ontario's (22.4%). Between 1992/93 and 2001/02, BC's government sector shrank by 4.9%, the smallest decrease in the country. Alberta government spending as a percent of GDP shrank by 34.5%, while Ontario's shrank by 22.2%. All provinces other than PEI (8.7% decrease) and BC had double digit decreases over the last ten years ranging from 10.9% in Nova Scotia to 34.5% in Alberta.

*Source: Tanzi, Vito and L. Shuknecht (1995), The Growth of Government and the Reform of the State in Industrial Countries. IMF Working Paper, December.

Performance Indicator 8 Migration Economy, Innovation and Education

Net Inter-provincial Migration per 1,000 Population, BC, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description
Net inter-provincial migration shows the movement of Canadians from one province to another, expressed as the number of migrants per 1,000 population.

Why it's Important
Net inter-provincial migration can serve as an indicator of a jurisdiction's relative attractiveness as a place to invest and work. Migration is also an important contributing factor to economic growth and in expanding the pool of young and highly skilled workers in a province.

Historically, there has been a correlation between inter-provincial migration flows and the relative economic strengths and weaknesses of a given jurisdiction.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)
By Province (2001/02) – **7th (6th)****
1-Year Progress Check (2000/01-2001/02) – **6th 10th)***
Period Progress Rank (1992/93-2001/02) – **7th (7th)***

How Does BC Compare?
From 1992/93 to 1994/95, BC had, by far, the strongest in-migration among the provinces. The majority of other provinces experienced net outflows of people to BC during this period. The inflow had weakened by 1995/96 and became an outflow by 1997/98. At the same time as BC began to experience a decline in provincial intake, Alberta and Ontario saw rising net inflows from other provinces.

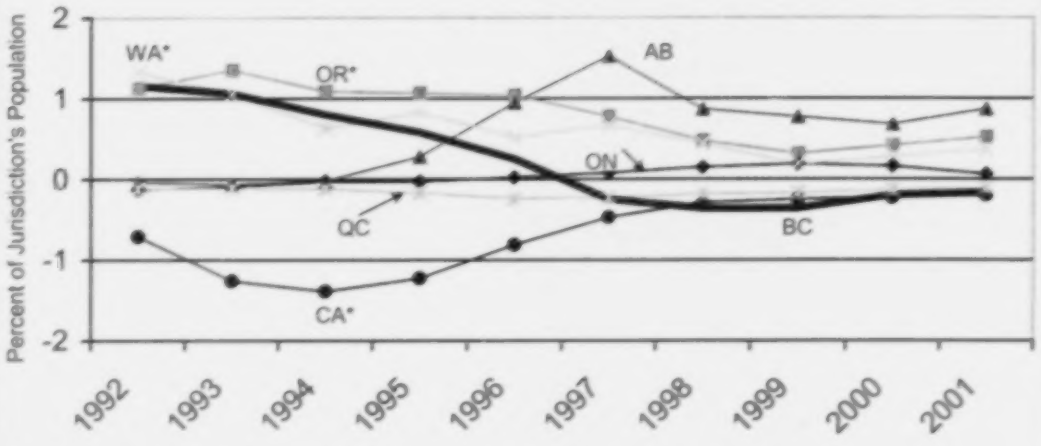
From 1992/93 to 2001/02, BC posted an annual average increase of 2.5 people per 1,000 population; BC had a positive flow of migrants from 1992/93 through 1996/97 and a negative flow from 1997/98 through 2001/02. Alberta led Canada with an average annual increase of 5.8 people per 1,000 population over the period.

Over the 1992/93 through 2001/02 period, BC attracted 84,763 people from other provinces, with the lion's share of this in-migration taking place during the first half of the decade. Alberta gained 168,722 people from other provinces during this period. Ontario (46,900) and Prince Edward Island (3,128) complete the list of provinces with a net inter-provincial gain of people during this period. Quebec lost 116,230 people to other provinces; Newfoundland and Labrador lost 57,025; Saskatchewan lost 51,651; Manitoba lost 43,283; Nova Scotia lost 13,406; and, New Brunswick lost 12,538.

Notes: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

Performance Indicator 8 | Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Net Inter-Provincial (Inter-State)* Migration



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Census Bureau.

Description:
This measure presents net inter-provincial (inter-state) migration as a percent of the population of the respective province (state). A ratio above zero indicates that more people moved into the province (state) from other provinces (states) than people moved out. The province (state) is seen as a relatively attractive location to live and work if it has a high value for this indicator. A ratio below zero indicates a net decline in the population from inter-provincial (inter-state) migration. In this case the province (state) is seen as a less desirable place to live and work.

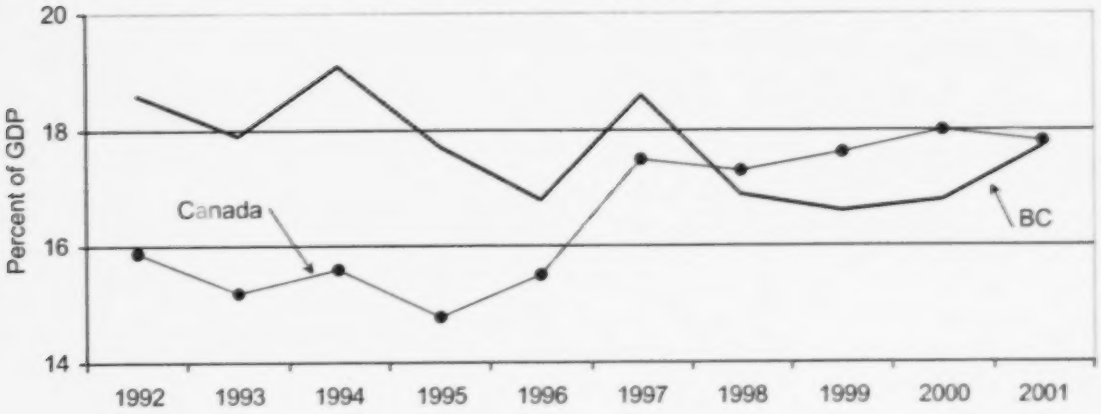
Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (2001) – **6th (6th)****
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **6th (7th)****
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **6th (6th)**

How Does BC Compare?
BC has shown a downward trend in net inter-provincial migration since the 1992 peak of 1.16% of population, falling below zero in 1997 and staying there through 2001. Although recent population growth has been weak, BC's total population grew by 18.2% between 1992 and 2001. Washington and Oregon have seen declines in their net inter-state migration, but neither state has seen an outflow of people to other states. Alberta began to gain people from other provinces in 1995; Ontario has seen gains since 1996. California and Quebec observed a net outflow of people to other states or provinces during the entire period of analysis.

Notes: *2000 data for California, Oregon and Washington state were interpolated from 1999 and 2001 data. The US Census Bureau does not plan to release the 2000 data. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because we were able to add two years of data in this report.

Performance Indicator 9 Business Investment Economy, Innovation and Education

Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation, BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

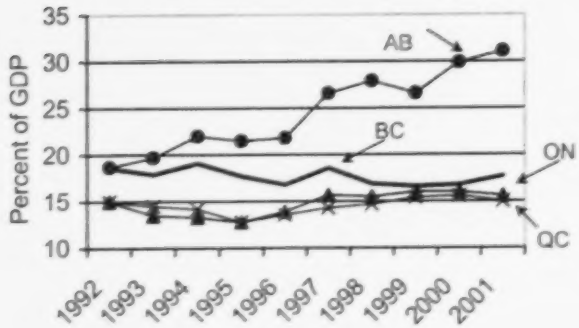
Description

This indicator measures the total amount of gross fixed business investment as a percent of GDP.

It reflects the expenditure by businesses on durable assets and on building and engineering construction. Also included is residential construction by individuals, alterations and improvements made to buildings, and transfer costs on the sale of existing assets.

Factors such as input costs, market conditions, expected rates of return, and government fiscal policy determine a jurisdiction's attractiveness for fixed business investment.

Provinces - Business Investment



Why it's Important

Business investment is perhaps the most important factor contributing to long-term economic growth and higher productivity. Without solid business investment, significant or sustained employment growth is unlikely. Periods of strong business investment are generally followed by faster economic growth and rising incomes.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **5th (6th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **1st (5th)***
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **9th (10th)**

How Does BC Compare?

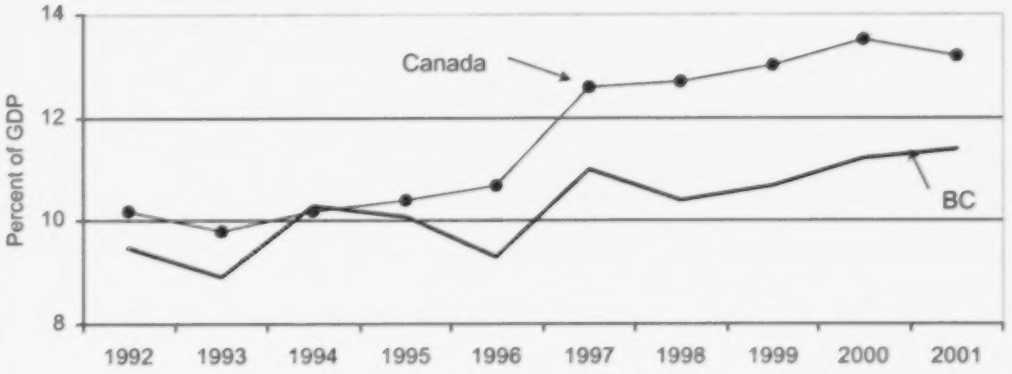
In 2001, business gross fixed capital formation was equal to 17.7% of BC's GDP, just below the Canadian average of 17.8%. Alberta led the pack with investment equal to 31.1% of GDP.

Between 2000 and 2001, BC saw an increase of 4.9% in total fixed business investment as a percent of GDP. This was the largest increase in Canada. Only three provinces had increases in this important measure between 2000 and 2001; the national average was a 1.0% *decrease*. Alberta recorded the second strongest growth in fixed business investment relative to GDP with a 4.2% increase over the previous year.

Note: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because of data revisions.

Business Non-Residential Investment

Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation
(Excluding Residential Structures), BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description:
This indicator measures gross fixed business investment (less residential construction) as a percent of GDP. It reflects the expenditure by businesses on durable assets and on building and engineering construction. Factors such as input costs, market conditions, expected rates of return, and government fiscal policy determine a jurisdiction's attractiveness for fixed business investment.

Business investment is perhaps the most important factor contributing to long-term economic growth and higher productivity. Without solid business investment, significant or sustained employment growth is unlikely. Periods of strong business investment are generally followed by faster economic growth and rising incomes.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Province (2001) – **6th (9th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **2nd (3rd)**
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **8th (10th)**

How Does BC Compare?
In 2001, non-residential business investment was equal to 11.4% of BC's GDP, below the Canadian average of 13.2%. Alberta led the pack with investment equal to 26.4% of GDP.

Between 2000 and 2001, BC saw an increase of 2.3% in non-residential business investment as a percent of GDP. Only two provinces, Alberta and BC, had increases in this important measure between 2000 and 2001; the national average was a 2.5% *decrease*. Alberta recorded the strongest growth in non-residential business investment relative to GDP with a 4.0% increase over the previous year.

Business Investment in Machinery and Equipment

Significant and ongoing business investment in machinery and equipment is essential to ensure that a region is constantly adapting and restructuring itself – necessities for any economy that hopes to remain competitive. Machinery and equipment investments include a wide array of items that are used throughout the production process to create final goods and services. Such investments are the primary mode by which new efficiency enhancing technologies are introduced to the marketplace, thus driving productivity gains. Productivity fosters economic growth, spurs increases in wages and employment levels, and thereby leads to overall increases in living standards.

Business investment, and thus productivity gains, can be encouraged in a variety of ways. By reducing net costs of capital investment in machinery and equipment, a competitive tax regime will stimulate new investments such as plant upgrades, modernization of communication systems, and other efficiency enhancing measures. Many investments, which have marginal or negative returns under higher effective tax rates, will become profitable when the tax burden is more competitive. Thus tax cuts may fuel investment in projects that were previously not deemed viable.

In addition to actual tax cuts, taxation rules are also important in encouraging or discouraging business investment. For example, depreciation rules that do not account for the rapid obsolescence of computers and much modern technology – with depreciation periods often extending even longer than a product's useful life – can significantly increase the net cost of investing in these items.

In many of the provinces and states that compete directly with BC for investment dollars, machinery and equipment used in the production process is not subject to sales taxes. In an environment and economy where businesses and capital enjoy greater mobility than ever before this situation has – in the past – put BC at a distinct disadvantage in both attracting new business and in encouraging existing businesses to make necessary investments to expand and upgrade facilities. Lack of capital investment has meant that some industries in BC have lagged behind competitors in terms of productivity growth and have been slow to adapt to the increasingly knowledge-based economy.

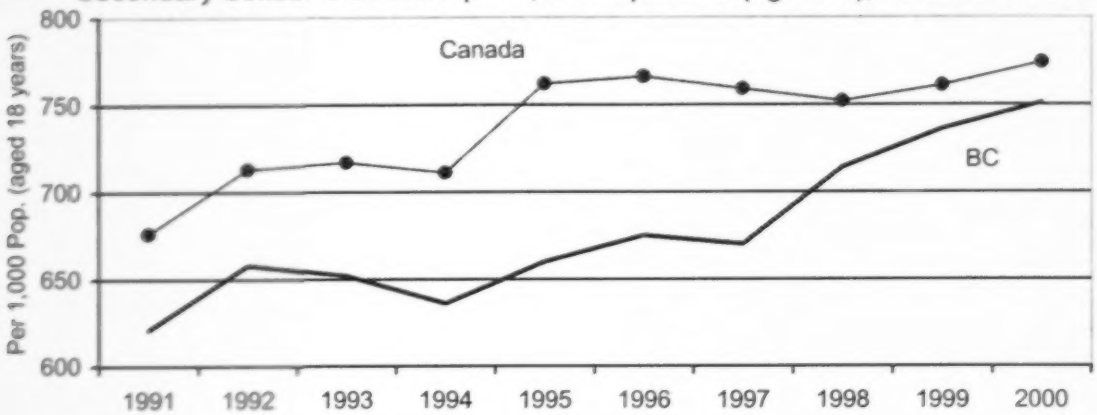
However, effective July 31st, 2001 the BC government exempted production machinery and equipment purchases made by manufacturers in eligible industries – including logging, mining and petroleum and natural gas extraction. This move, with an estimated net cost reduction to business of $87 million in 2001/02*, is a step in the right direction, but exempting more business inputs would provide further incentives for business to invest in machinery and equipment. Incenting business investment in machinery and equipment also lays the groundwork for productivity growth, which in turn should help fuel economic growth in the province as a whole.

Note: * British Columbia Ministry of Finance, Economic and Fiscal Update, July 30, 2001.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 10 — Secondary School Graduates — Economy, Innovation and Education

Secondary School Graduates per 1,000 Population (aged 18), BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

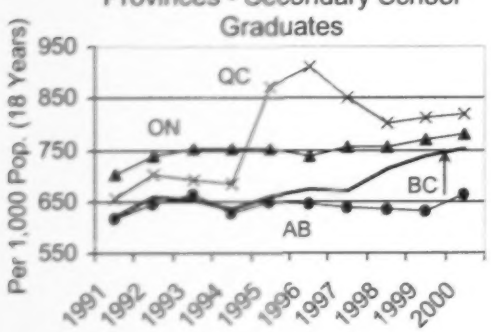
Description

This indicator measures the number of secondary school graduates per 1,000 population aged 18 years (at July 1 each year).

Why it's Important

Levels of education tend to correlate strongly with future personal prosperity and well-being. With the "knowledge" content of most jobs steadily increasing, high school graduation or better is generally deemed essential as a base qualification for "higher learning" and entry level employment.

Provinces - Secondary School Graduates



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2000) – 9th (9th)
1-Year Progress Check (2000) – 7th (1st)
Period Progress Rank (1991-2000) – 3rd (3rd)

How Does BC Compare?

In 1991, BC had the second lowest number of secondary school graduates per 1,000 population aged 18 years, at 621. New Brunswick was first at 795, followed by Prince Edward Island at 749 graduates per 1,000 18 year olds; the Canadian average was 676.

By 2000, the number of secondary school graduates per 1,000 18 year olds in BC had grown by 21.0% to 751, the third largest increase in Canada. Quebec had 25.0% growth (from 655 to 819) and Newfoundland and Labrador had 23.4% growth (from 661 to 816).

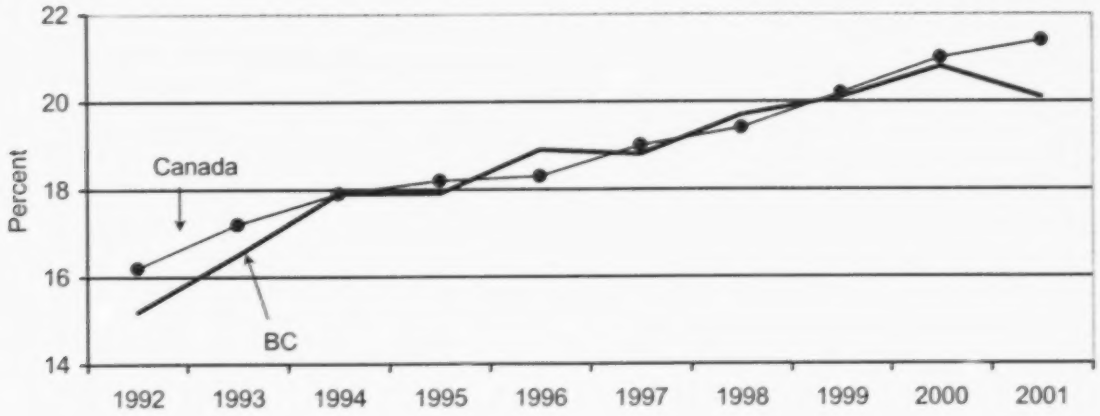
In 2000, Alberta had 663 secondary school graduates for every 1,000 18 year olds, Ontario had 780; the Canadian average was 774.

Note: There may be slight variations between graduation rates contained in this report and those reported by provincial Ministries of Education. Data used in this indicator are made comparable across jurisdictions by Statistics Canada.

PROGRESS

Performance Indicator 11 University Completion Economy, Innovation and Education

Percent of Population (aged 25-54) with University Completion*, BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

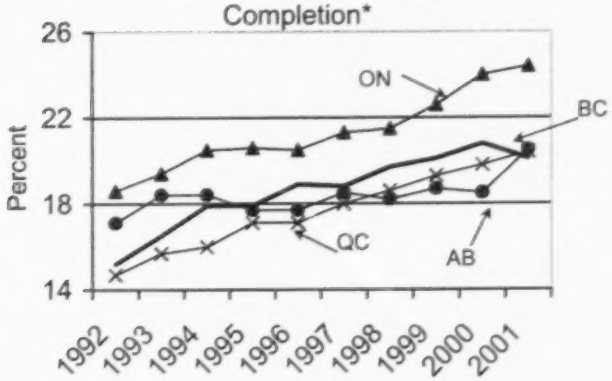
Description

This indicator measures the percentage of the population aged 25 to 54 that has attained a university education.

Why it's Important

Although there are many different forms of post-secondary credentialing, university completion is an important indication of a jurisdiction's success in building the high level academic, managerial and entrepreneurial skills necessary in today's knowledge driven economy.

Provinces - University Completion*



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **4th (2nd)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **10th (4th)**
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **5th (3rd)****

How Does BC Compare?

In 1992, 15.2% of BC's population had completed a university education, the third highest proportion in Canada. This compared with Alberta at 17.1%, Ontario at 18.6%, and the Canadian average of 16.2%.

In 2001, 20.1% of BC's population had completed a university education and BC's rank moved down to fourth behind Ontario (24.4%), Alberta (20.5%), and Quebec (20.4%). The Canadian average in 2001 was 21.4%.

All provinces experienced growth in the proportion of people with university completion over the 1992 to 2001 period. The smallest average annual increase was 2.4% in Alberta; the largest, 5.1% was in Prince Edward Island. BC ranked fifth with an annual average increase of 3.2%; the Canadian average also increased by 3.2%.

Note: *The data in the 2001 Report included people of all ages with university completion. The data in this report includes onl people aged 25-54 with university completion. There are no changes to BC's 2000, 1999-2000, or 1991-2000 ranks as reported i the 2001 Report as a result of this methodology revision. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revision.

Apprenticeship Training

One suggestion that followed the release of our initial benchmarking report was that we include broader measures of education than university and high school completion. We reviewed several potential measures and found that most did not meet our preference for timely, cross-jurisdictional comparisons. The one that came closest to meeting these criteria is the number of apprenticeships completed in each province.

The BC Ministry of Advanced Education website defines an apprenticeship as "paid work-based training combined with post-secondary education." Apprentices spend approximately 80% of their time learning their skills on-the-job under the direction of skilled journeypersons and approximately 20% of their time learning in a classroom setting. Most apprenticeship programs take four years to complete. When apprentices finish their program, they are required to write a completion exam in order to receive their certificate.

The Statistics Canada Registered Apprenticeship Training database has over 100 trades ranging from Baker to Electrician to Tool and Die Maker. The table below lists, by province and year, the number of people per 1,000 population who have successfully completed an apprenticeship.

Registered Apprenticeship Completions per 1,000 population

	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	1990 - 2000 change	2000 Rank (Best - Worst)
BC	0.76	0.90	0.79	0.70	0.66	0.70	(0.06)	3
AB	1.42	1.44	1.64	1.42	1.45	1.50	0.07	1
SK	0.40	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.40	0.73	0.33	2
MB	0.50	0.43	0.39	0.34	0.36	0.47	(0.03)	7
ON	0.60	0.61	0.54	0.52	0.52	0.53	(0.07)	6
QC	0.42	0.37	0.19	0.21	0.25	0.29	(0.13)	10
NB	0.71	0.83	0.79	0.74	0.52	0.56	(0.15)	4
NS	0.68	0.74	0.50	0.40	0.33	0.46	(0.22)	8
PE	0.31	0.31	0.38	0.54	0.34	0.43	0.12	9
NF	0.58	0.63	0.42	0.45	0.47	0.55	(0.04)	5
Canada	0.64	0.66	0.58	0.54	0.54	0.59	(0.05)	n/a

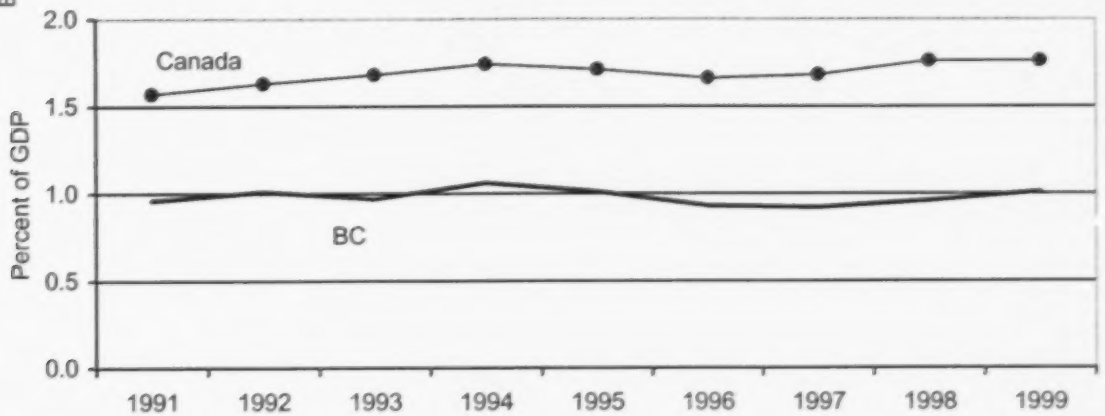
Sources: Statistics Canada; BC Ministry of Advanced Education.

Statistics Canada data only covers registered apprentices. Trades Qualification Challengers, those who write and pass an inter-provincial Red Seal or provincial trade qualification exam, are not covered. These "challengers" are referred to as "non-apprentices" and represent an additional pool of qualified tradespersons. During the 1990s, the number of non-apprentices in BC receiving certification averaged about 2,500 per year, compared to an average of about 2,800 per year in apprenticeship completions*. Although there is currently no comprehensive database, the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA) is currently working on one. We will review this dataset when it becomes available and include an update in future benchmarking reports.

Note: *BC Ministry of Advanced Education.

Performance Indicator 12 R & D — Economy, Innovation and Education

R & D Spending as a Percent of GDP, BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

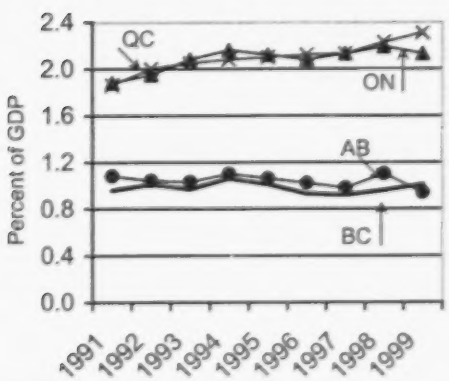
Description

This indicator measures how much is spent on research and development in relation to GDP. It includes the sum of expenditures reported by (or estimated for) the various sectors involved in research and development – government, business, higher education and not-for-profit organizations.

Why it's Important

Spending on research and development (R&D) is a key factor in innovation and the creation of new wealth.

Provinces - R&D Spending



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (1999) – 7th (6th)
1-Year Progress Check (1998-1999) – 4th (7th)*
Period Progress Rank (1991-1999) – 7th (7th)*

How Does BC Compare?

In 1999, spending on research and development as a percent of GDP in BC (1.01%) trailed Quebec (2.31%), Ontario (2.13%), Nova Scotia (1.49%), Manitoba (1.16%), Saskatchewan (1.04%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (1.03%). The gap between R&D spending in BC and the Canadian average has increased from 0.62 percentage points (39.2%) in 1991 to 0.74 percentage points (42.3%) in 1999.

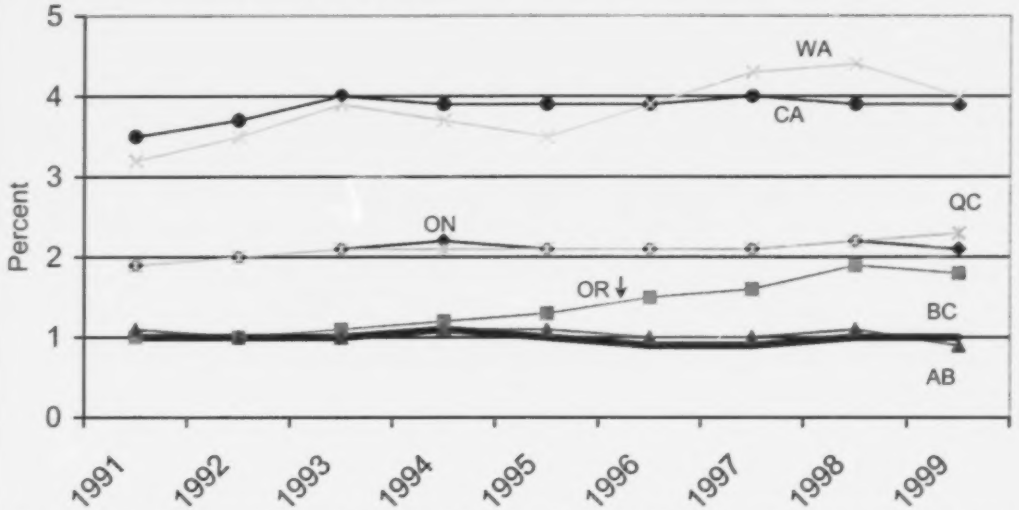
Over the period 1991 to 1999, six provinces saw their ratio of R&D spending to GDP increase. The largest increases were in Quebec (24.6%) and Prince Edward Island (15.5%); BC's ratio increased by 6.2%.

In 1999, nearly $4.9 billion was expended on R&D in Quebec, compared to $1.2 billion in BC and $1.1 billion in Alberta. Ontario led the way with $8.7 billion in that year.

Note: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because of data revisions.

Performance Indicator 12 | Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Research and Development as a Percent of GDP



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US National Science Foundation.

Description

This measure is the ratio of research and development (R&D) expenditures to GDP. Economies with higher levels of research and development are more likely to experience more rapid economic growth (than economies with low R&D expenditures) as new products are developed along with processes that increase the economy's productivity.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Jurisdiction (1999) – **6th (7th)**
1-Year Progress Check (1998-1999) – **1st (3rd)***
Period Progress Rank (1991-1999) – **5th (7th)**

How Does BC Compare?

Average spending on R&D as a percent of GDP in BC is roughly one-half of the spending in Quebec and Ontario and approximately one-quarter of the spending in Washington state and California. Between 1991 and 1999, R&D spending as a percent of GDP grew by 81.4% in Oregon, 24.6% in Quebec, 25.4% in Washington state, and a mere 6.2% in BC.

Notes: Data revisions included within this report restate US R&D figures by between 13.1% and 70.1%. These revisions do not affect BC's overall rank for last year. *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

Performance Indicator 12 Supplemental Information: Connectivity

Internet Connectivity and Technology Diffusion

Technology diffusion refers to the speed with which a new technology is adopted and the proportion of the population which has access to it. The available measures with respect to internet connectedness are the proportion of BC households that have computers and the proportion that have access to the internet. A related measure of interest is the proportion of BC households that have broadband access to the internet.

Internet access is growing quickly in Canada. Between 1997 and 2001, Nova Scotia had the slowest growth among the provinces in the number of households with an internet connection at 80.5%; the Canadian growth rate was 107.6%. BC and Alberta, at 65.3% in 2001, have the highest percentage of households connected to the internet; the Canadian average is 60.2%.

Canadian Households Using the Internet, Percent

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1997 - 2001 Growth	2001 Rank (Best-Worst)
BC	33.0	42.0	48.1	55.9	65.3	97.9	1
AB	34.0	45.1	50.8	58.8	65.3	92.1	1
SK	26.4	33.7	39.9	46.9	52.6	99.2	8
MB	28.8	33.3	38.3	49.8	56.7	96.9	6
ON	32.9	39.1	44.5	54.2	63.7	93.6	3
QC	19.8	26.2	33.1	43.6	53.7	171.2	7
NB	28.1	31.0	38.0	45.2	52.4	86.5	9
NS	31.8	37.8	41.1	52.0	57.4	80.5	5
PE	25.7	35.4	40.5	51.1	57.8	124.9	4
NF	26.1	28.8	35.2	45.5	50.2	92.3	10
Canada	29.0	35.9	41.8	51.3	60.2	107.6	n/a

Source: Statistics Canada, Household Internet Use Survey 2000.

British Columbia households are well above the national average in terms of computer ownership. In 2000, 63.1% of BC households had computers while the Canadian average was 54.9%. In Vancouver and Victoria, 66.6% and 64.4% of households, respectively, had computers in 2000.

Although there is no widely accepted definition of what constitutes broadband internet access it is essentially a high-speed connection, which allows for rapid transfer of large amounts of data. The BC Premier's Technology Council notes that high-speed broadband is available in the more populated areas of the province – southern Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland, the Okanagan, Prince George and parts of the Kootenays and that, by the end of 2003, 80% of British Columbians will have access to affordable, high-speed broadband service.

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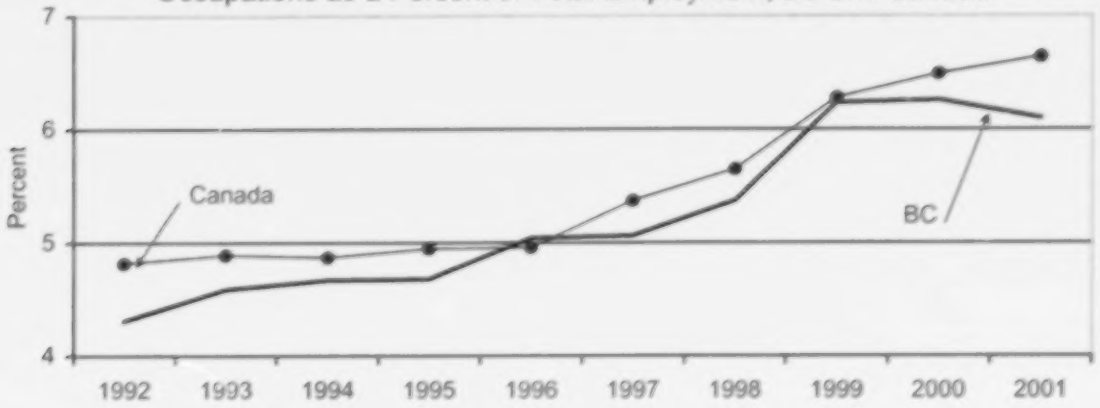
Performance Indicator 13 — Natural and Applied Science and Related Occupations

Economy, Innovation and Education

Employment in Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations as a Percent of Total Employment, BC and Canada

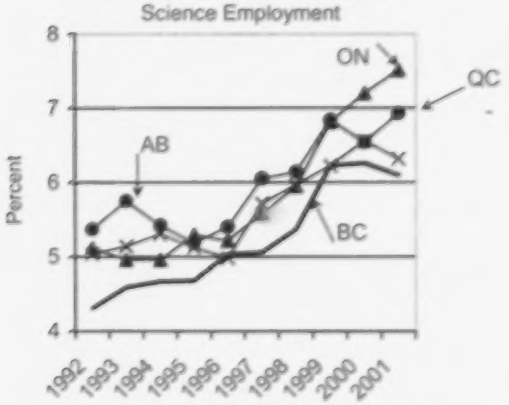


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator shows the proportion of a jurisdiction's employment which is comprised of persons working in natural and applied sciences and related occupations. Included in this category are occupations in the physical sciences, engineers, architects, mathematicians, systems analysts, and programmers and associated technical occupations.

Provinces - Natural and Applied Science Employment



Why it's Important

The number of scientists and engineers relative to total employment is one indication of a jurisdiction's success in attracting people who possess knowledge and skills essential to the process of innovation and wealth creation.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – 4th (4th)
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – 8th (6th)
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – 7th (4th)*

How Does BC Compare?

After a small drop between 1991 and 1992, there were steady increases in the number of scientists and engineers as a proportion of total employment in Canada through 2001. In 2001, 6.1% of British Columbia's employment was comprised of scientists and engineers, up from 4.3% in 1992. This marked the third largest increase in Canada between 1992 and 2001.

Despite this growth, BC remained below the Canadian average on this indicator throughout most of this period. In 1996, BC's ratio was slightly above the national average.

Note: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

III. Environment, Health and Society

Targets and Performance Indicators

Goal

Make BC a leader in Canada on environmental quality, health outcomes and social condition by 2010.

Targets

4. **Environmental Quality**: Target 1st in Canada for environmental quality by 2010.
5. **Health Outcomes**: Target 1st in Canada for life expectancy at birth by 2010.
6. **Social Condition**: Target 1st or 2nd in Canada for having the smallest percentage of families and unattached individuals living below the "low income cut-off" level by 2010.

Performance Indicators

14. Air Quality
15. Greenhouse Gas Emissions
16. Wastewater Treatment
17. Protected Areas
18. Cancer Mortality
19. Low Birth Weight
20. Personal and Property Crime

Note on Table (next page): An arithmetic average and "overall indicative rank" are provided for summary comparison purposes only. Each core target and performance indicator should be viewed independently with more emphasis being placed on the three core target measures for comparing British Columbia's overall performance to other provinces.

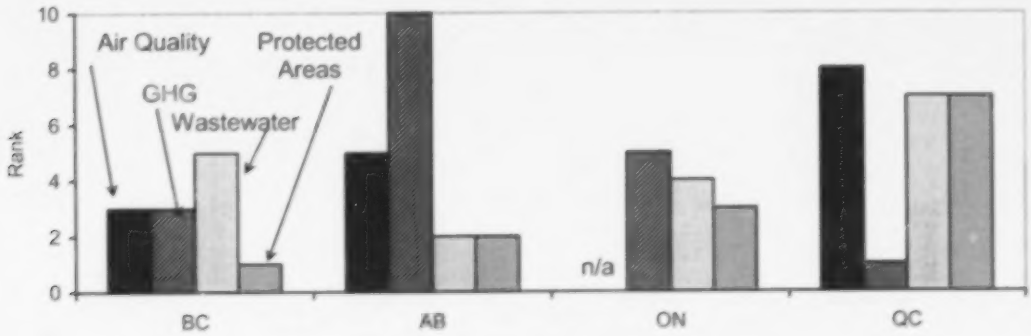
Where BC Ranks

Environment, Health and Society

Environment, Health and Society													
	4. Environmental Quality	5. Health Outcomes	6. Low Income Incidence	14. Air Quality	15. Greenhouse Gas Emissions	16. Wastewater Treatment	17. Protected Areas	18. Cancer Mortality	19. Low Birth Weight	20. Personal and Property Crime	Arithmetic Average	Overall Indicative Rank
By Province (last available data year) (BC's prior rank is shown in brackets)												
Year	n/a	1999	2000	2001	2000	1999	2002	1998	1999	2001		
BC	**1 (1)**	**1 (1)**	**9 (9)**	**3 (2)**	**3 (3)**	**5(n/a)**	**1 (1)**	**1 (3)**	**1 (2)**	**10(10)**	**3.5**	**1**
AB	4	3	5	5	10	2	2	2	10	7	5.0	3
SK	5	5	3	6	9	1	4	3	5	9	5.0	3
MB	3	9	8	4	6	3	5	6	4	8	5.6	6
ON	2	2	2	n/a	5	4	3	4	9	5	4.0	2
QC	6	5	10	8	1	7	7	9	8	4	6.5	9
NB	10	7	4	7	8	6	10	8	7	3	7.0	10
NS	6	4	6	2	7	8	6	10	3	6	5.8	8
PE	9	7	1	n/a	2	9	9	5	6	2	5.6	5
NF	6	10	7	1	4	10	8	7	2	1	5.6	6
One Year Progress Check (BC's prior rank is shown in brackets)												
Year	n/a	1999	2000	n/a	2000	n/a	n/a	1998	1999	2001		
BC	**n/a**	**3 (5)**	**8 (9)**	**n/a**	**4(10)**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**1 (9)**	**3 (2)**	**7 (3)**	**4.3**	**3**
AB	n/a	8	5	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	2	6	6	5.5	5
SK	n/a	9	9	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	9	8	9	7.7	10
MB	n/a	9	7	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	8	5	10	7.3	8
ON	n/a	6	3	n/a	7	n/a	n/a	6	7	8	6.2	6
QC	n/a	7	6	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	5	4	2	4.5	4
NB	n/a	5	10	n/a	9	n/a	n/a	7	9	4	7.3	8
NS	n/a	2	4	n/a	8	n/a	n/a	3	2	3	3.7	2
PE	n/a	1	1	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	10	10	5	6.2	6
NF	n/a	4	2	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	4	1	1	2.2	1
Period Progress Rank (BC's prior rank is shown in brackets)												
Period	n/a	1991 - 1999	1991 - 2000	n/a	1991 - 2000	1991 - 1999	n/a	1991 - 1998	1991 - 1999	1992 - 2001		
BC	**n/a**	**3 (1)**	**8 (8)**	**n/a**	**3 (4)**	**1(n/a)**	**n/a**	**2 (4)**	**3 (3)**	**6 (5)**	**3.7**	**1**
AB	n/a	7	3	n/a	8	8	n/a	4	6	1	5.3	5
SK	n/a	9	1	n/a	10	2	n/a	8	7	10	6.7	9
MB	n/a	10	2	n/a	4	7	n/a	9	5	9	6.6	8
ON	n/a	5	5	n/a	2	6	n/a	3	8	2	4.4	3
QC	n/a	6	4	n/a	1	3	n/a	5	4	3	3.7	1
NB	n/a	8	6	n/a	9	10	n/a	10	9	8	8.6	10
NS	n/a	1	10	n/a	7	4	n/a	6	1	5	4.9	4
PE	n/a	2	9	n/a	5	5	n/a	1	10	7	5.6	6
NF	n/a	4	7	n/a	6	9	n/a	7	2	4	5.6	6

Core Target 4 Environmental Quality — Environment, Health and Society

Environmental Quality, BC, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec



Sources: BC Progress Board; data from the BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

Description

This core target has been developed in an attempt to provide a summary snapshot of BC's overall environmental quality. It is derived from four environmental performance indicators that follow in this report: air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, wastewater treatment and protected areas. Environmental Quality rankings are the simple average of each province's rank on the four indicators.

Why it's Important

Environmental quality has both direct and indirect consequences for human health and quality of life.

Rank by Province (Most recent data available)					
	Air Quality	GHG Per Capita	Wastewater Treatment	Protected Areas	Environmental Quality
	2001	2000	1999	2000 - 2002	
BC	3	3	5	1	1
AB	5	10	2	2	4
SK	6	9	1	4	5
MB	4	6	3	5	3
ON	n/a	5	4	3	2
QC	8	1	7	7	6
NB	7	8	6	10	10
NS	2	7	8	6	6
PE	n/a	2	9	9	9
NF	1	4	10	8	6

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province – 1st (1st)
1-Year Progress Check – **n/a**
Period Progress Rank – **n/a**

How Does BC Compare?

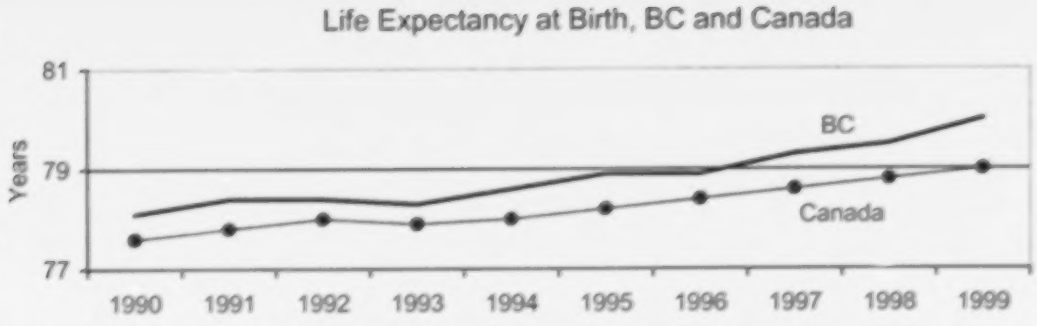
Overall, BC ranked first in Canada on environmental quality, buoyed by a strong showing on the air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and protected areas performance indicators.

Ontario and Manitoba ranked second and third respectively for environmental quality. Alberta took fourth spot overall due to high levels of greenhouse gas emissions, though it ranked second on both protected areas and wastewater treatment. Saskatchewan had the fifth overall rank and the top rank on wastewater treatment. Quebec, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador tied for the sixth spot. Prince Edward Island was second worst on wastewater treatment and protected areas and earned the second worst overall rank. New Brunswick had the worst overall rank; it's best individual rank was sixth on wastewater treatment.

Notes: The Environmental Quality core target was developed because the Board was unable to identify a single measure that adequately encapsulates overall environmental quality. Should a more scientifically robust measure for overall environmental quality be available, the Board will revise this target measure. For the air quality indicator, data is not available for a metropolitan area in Prince Edward Island; nor is 2001 air quality data available for Ontario. The Environmental Quality ranks for PEI and Ontario are the arithmetic average of ranks for Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Wastewater Treatment, and Protected Areas only.

PROGRESS

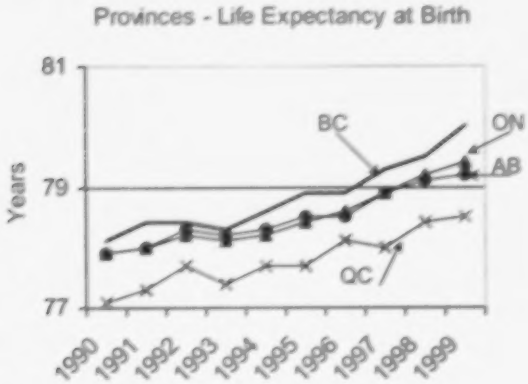
Core Target 5 Health Outcomes — Environment, Health and Society



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

Life expectancy at birth is the average number of years that a child is expected to live in its lifetime, based on current mortality rates.



Why it's Important

This is clearly a key indicator of the overall health of citizens in a jurisdiction.

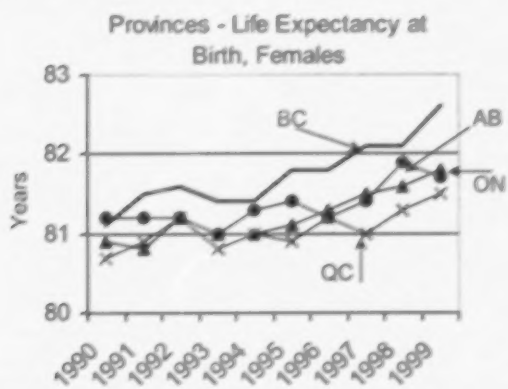
Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

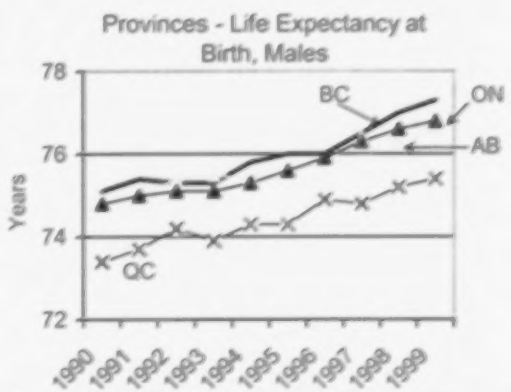
By Province (1999) – 1st (1st)
1-Year Progress Check (1998-1999) – 3rd (5th)*
Period Progress Rank (1991-1999) – 3rd (1st)

How Does BC Compare?

In 1999, British Columbia ranked first in Canada for life expectancy at birth for both males and females. Life expectancy at birth for both sexes reached 80.0 years in 1999, up from 78.1 years in 1990, the second largest increase in Canada. In 1999, the life expectancy of a male born in BC was 77.3 years, while the Canadian average was 76.3 years. BC led the nation in female life expectancy at birth in 1999 at 82.6 years, compared to the Canadian average of 81.7 years.

From 1990 to 1999, the gap between male and female life expectancy has narrowed by a sizeable margin. Changes in trend lines for "causes of death" and associated risk factors explain this change.





Notes: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions. BC regional life expectancy data provided by the BC Vital Statistics Agency is more current than provincial or national data provided by Statistics Canada.

Potential Years of Life Lost

Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) is an indicator of premature mortality. Potential Years of Life Lost represents the number of years lost when a person dies prematurely. For the purposes of the PYLL calculation, premature death is defined to be any death between the ages of 0 and 74 and is the sum of the differences between the actual age at death and age 75. For example, someone who dies at age 25 is said to have lost 50 years of life. This method gives greater weight to deaths that occur at younger ages than to those at older ages, and can vary according to gender, socio-economic status, and geographic region. The PYLL rate is an age-standardized measure of a population's PYLL, given in terms of a rate per 1,000 population. A high PYLL rate indicates relatively more premature (i.e., death before age 75) mortality; conversely, a low PYLL rate indicates a low degree of premature mortality.

Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) Rates (Per 1,000 Population, Both Sexes, All Causes)

	1990	1993	1996	1999	1999 Rank	Percent Change 1990-1999	Rank for Percent Change 1990-1999
BC	67.3	63.8	60.5	51.8	2	(23.1)	2
AB	67.3	62.7	60.0	56.6	5	(15.8)	7
SK	67.5	64.6	67.2	62.2	9	(7.9)	9
MB	68.9	66.5	63.7	64.2	10	(6.8)	10
ON	62.0	59.2	55.3	49.1	1	(20.7)	4
QC	69.9	64.1	61.7	57.3	6	(18.0)	6
NB	68.8	67.5	60.0	59.5	8	(13.6)	8
NS	69.4	62.6	61.7	54.3	4	(21.8)	3
PE	71.9	58.4	60.7	57.5	7	(20.0)	5
NF	71.2	62.8	60.8	53.8	3	(24.5)	1
Canada	66.5	62.4	59.4	54.0		(18.8)	

Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

British Columbia ranked second in terms of Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) in 1999 with an indicator value of 51.8 years per 1,000 population, behind Ontario at 49.1 and ahead of Newfoundland and Labrador at 53.8. Every province noted a decline in their PYLL rate between 1990 and 1999. British Columbia had the second largest decrease (23.1%) behind Newfoundland and Labrador (24.5%) and ahead of Nova Scotia (21.8%). The nation as a whole saw an 18.8% decline in the number of potential years of life lost per 1,000 population.

British Columbia went from 67.3 years of life lost per 1,000 people in 1990 to 51.8 years in 1999, an improvement of 15.6 years. As noted above, BC had the second best improvement in percentage terms but it also had the second best improvement in absolute terms. Newfoundland and Labrador had the largest absolute decrease of 17.4 years, followed by BC and then Nova Scotia at 15.1 years.

Note: The PYLL data are adjusted relative to a standard population (the 1991 Canada population estimate), thus allowing for spatial or temporal comparisons.

Health Care Spending and Health Outcomes

Government spending on health care has been growing in real terms for decades and while there have been some reports that the recent pace of growth may moderate soon it is likely that government spending on health care will continue to grow as Canada's population ages. In 1976, BC spent $3.5 billion on health care (all figures in 1997 dollars). By 1986, BC's expenditure had reached $5.1 billion and by 2001 it had reached $9.0 billion. As a percent of GDP, BC's health expenditure has gone from 5.5% in 1982 to 7.3% in 2001. As a percent of total provincial government spending, BC's health care spending went from 26.2% in 1976 to 34.2% in 2001.

Provincial Health Spending

	British Columbia				*Canadian Average*			
	Per Capita, dollars	Percent of GDP	Percent of Provincial Spending	In Constant Dollars ($1997 billions)	Per Capita, dollars	Percent of GDP	Percent of Provincial Spending	In Constant Dollars ($1997 billions)
1975/76	395	n/a	26.2	3.5	393	n/a	26.6	29.2
1980/81	739	5.5*	29.9	4.5	665	5.3*	26.4	32.9
1985/86	1,084	5.9	28.4	5.1	1,108	5.8	26.7	40.5
1990/91	1,564	6.5	31.4	6.5	1,153	6.3	28.7	49.1
1995/96	1,854	6.6	29.7	7.3	1,661	6.0	27.3	49.7
2000/01	2,289	7.3	34.2	9.0	2,119	6.2	31.7	62.5
75/76-00/01 Growth (%):	480	33	31	159	439	17	19	114

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information.
* 1981/82

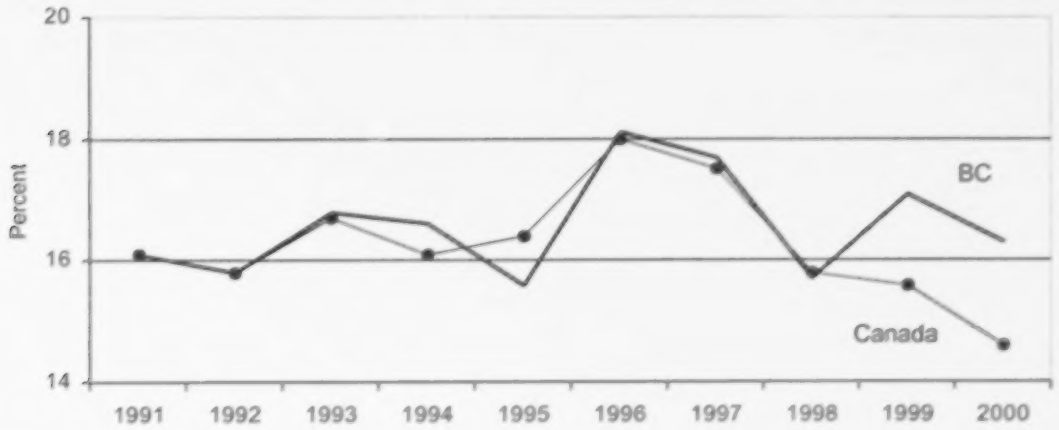
In 2001 provincial rankings, BC ends up third in overall provincial government health care spending per capita at $2,289, behind Manitoba at $2,335 and Newfoundland and Labrador at $2,340. As noted elsewhere in this report, BC does very well on health outcome indicators relative to other provinces (i.e. life expectancy, low birth weight infants, and mortality from cancer and cardiovascular disease). However, drawing a causal connection between high provincial government health care spending and health outcomes in BC (and other jurisdictions) is a mistake. For example, a review of health outcomes in Newfoundland and Labrador – the province with the highest per capita provincial government health spending – shows that a correlation between high relative spending and good health outcomes does not necessarily follow. In 2001, Newfoundland and Labrador ranked 10th for life expectancy, the percentage of obese people, and cardiovascular disease mortality and 7th on cancer mortality. On a more positive note, Newfoundland and Labrador ranked 2nd on low birth weight and 3rd on potential years of life lost.

It's fairly well known that Canada's population is aging. Less well known is that BC must contend with a population that is even older in comparison to other provinces. This exacerbates the problem of funding health care since a disproportionate amount of lifetime health care costs occur in the last year of life. Of added concern is that the Canada Health and Social Transfer allocation formula does not differentiate between relatively young and aging populations, meaning that BC could be disproportionately affected in the future.

As one examines the rather complex relationship between health care spending and outcomes, it becomes quite clear that a variety of factors come into play, not least the propensity for people within a jurisdiction to make healthy life style choices.

Core Target 6 Social Condition Environment, Health and Society

Families and Unattached Individuals with Income Below the After-Tax Low Income Cut-Off, BC and Canada

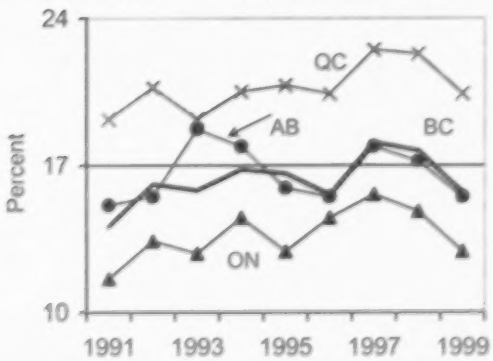


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description
This measure is the ratio of families and unattached individuals with low incomes (after tax) to the total population of families and unattached individuals.

Why it's Important
There are a number of negative outcomes for families experiencing low incomes. People with low income may experience more physical and mental health problems, rely more on charity, attain lower levels of education, or have higher secondary school drop out rates.

Provinces - Low Income Prevalence



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)
By Province (2000) – **9th (9th)***
1-Year Progress Check (1999-2000) – **8th (9th)***
Period Progress Rank (1991-2000) – **8th (8th)***

How Does BC Compare?
In 2000, BC ranked ninth in Canada with 16.3% of families and unattached individuals with incomes below the after-tax low income cut-off level. This was 1.7 percentage points (11.6%) above the Canadian average of 14.6% and better than only one other province, Quebec, which had a ratio of 18.5%. Prince Edward Island had the lowest rate at 11.8%, followed closely by Ontario at 12.0%, and Saskatchewan at 12.2%.

British Columbia experienced a 1.2% increase in the proportion of people with low income between 1991 and 2000. Nova Scotia (7.6%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (2.0%) were the only other provinces with an increase. The number of Canadian families and unattached individuals with incomes below the after-tax LICO fell by 9.3% between 1991 and 2000. The provincial decreases ranged from 2.5% in Prince Edward Island to 19.2% in Saskatchewan.

Notes: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions by Statistics Canada. The revisions are due to revised population estimates and improved weighting procedures. For further discussion of the LICO, please see the Supplemental Information box on the next page.

Low Income Incidence (Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Offs – LICOs)

The use of Low Income Cut-Offs as a benchmark can be fairly criticized due to the relative nature of the measure. For instance, it is possible for everyone in society to be better off, yet have no reduction in low income, since relatively speaking, the people at the lower end of the spectrum will still be spending a larger portion of their income on the basics of food, clothing, and shelter. Statistics Canada sets LICOs to be the income level at which 54.7% or greater of after-tax income is spent on food, shelter and clothing. The 54.7% line represents the average proportion of income spent on food, shelter and clothing (35% in 1992 over all households) plus 20 percentage points. Statistics Canada periodically reviews the LICO levels based on its Annual Survey of Household Spending.

Another major criticism is that in calculating different LICOs for urban and rural areas, many basic expenditures are ignored. While the cost of housing is usually much less in rural areas than in urban areas, the costs of items such as transportation are far higher since they do not receive the same subsidies that urban areas do. Also, access to services such as health care and education may be poorer in rural areas, and many retail items are more expensive due to less competition. This means that, with the exception of housing, people in rural areas often have to pay more to get the same standard of living as those residing in urban areas. While it may still be less expensive overall to live in rural areas when housing is taken into account, it is unlikely that the differences are as large as those reflected in the LICOs.

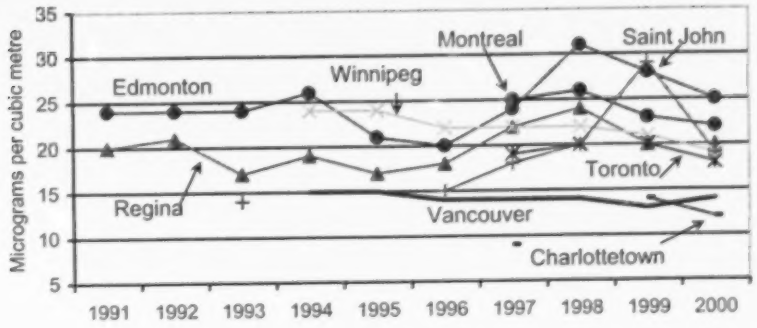
Another fault with this measure is that it does not account for income mobility. Even though there were roughly the same percentage of families and unattached individuals with incomes below LICO in BC in 1991 (16.1%) and in 2000 (16.3%) the people who had low incomes in 1991 were, for the most part, not the same people who had low incomes in 2000. This is because most people who experience low income improve their situation relatively quickly and get above the low income threshold. Recent Statistics Canada research* shows that of the 19.8 percent of people aged 16 and older (in the sample under study) who had low income between 1993 and 1996, 7.4% had low income for one year, 4.4% fell below the threshold for two years, 3.1% had low income for three years, and 4.9% were in low income for four years. Statistics Canada research finds that, among the over 16 age group, young people, unattached individuals and people living in single parent families have the highest exposure to low income.

An alternative to the LICO measure is to estimate the cost of a basket of necessities and keep track of the number of people who cannot afford that basket. This approach probably gets closer to what most people understand as poverty than does the relative approach of LICO. Statistics Canada, in cooperation with the provincial and territorial Ministers of Social Services and Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), are working on a needs-based measure of poverty called the Market Basket Measure (MBM). A release had been tentatively scheduled for 2002 but Statistics Canada is currently in negotiations with HRDC to resolve remaining issues. For the time being the Progress Board will continue to use the LICO indicator. We will continue to monitor the Market Basket Measure and will report on this issue again next year.

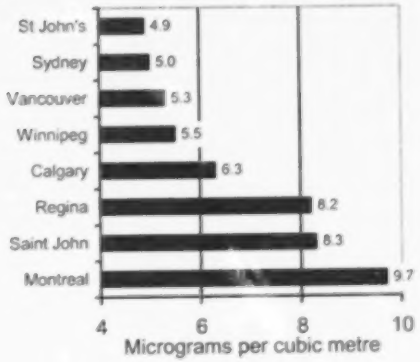
Notes: *Drolet, Marie and Rene Morissette (1999), To What Extent Are Canadians Exposed to Low Income?, Statistics Canada.

Performance Indicator 14 Air Quality — Environment, Health and Society

Particulate Matter (PM_{10} - µg/m^3)



Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5}$ - µg/m^3), 2001



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Ministry of Water, Land, and Air Protection.

Description

Air quality is measured by the amount of fine particulate matter in the air. Fine particulates include dust, dirt, liquid droplets and smoke. Many air quality monitors have been measuring fine particulates under 10 microns (PM_{10}), but recent findings have shown that particles 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$), pose the greatest health risk. There is a national initiative underway to switch to monitoring $PM_{2.5}$. As such, the best available data for 1992 through 2000 is PM_{10} while the best data for 2001 and subsequent years is $PM_{2.5}$.

Factories, cars, power plants, construction activity, and numerous other man-made sources emit fine particulates. The indicator is measured by individual cities, rather than by province.

Why it's Important

Air quality has direct effects on human health. Fine particulates may affect breathing, aggravate respiratory and cardiovascular disease, alter the body's defense systems and damage lung tissue. Both premature mortality and emergency hospital visits may increase during times of high concentrations of fine particulates.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)*

By Major Metro Centre (2001) – 3rd (2nd)
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) - **n/a**
Period Progress Rank - **n/a**

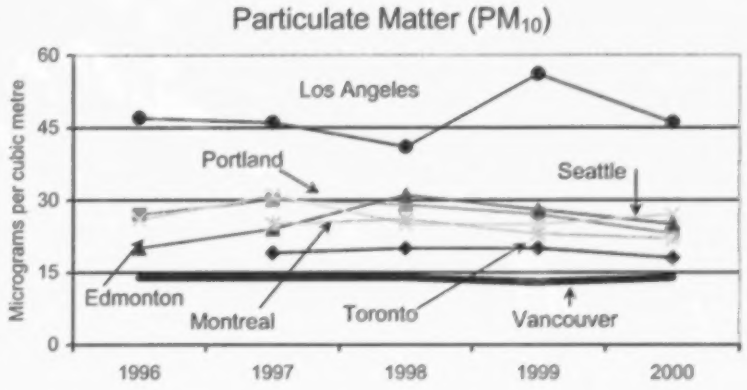
How Does BC Compare?

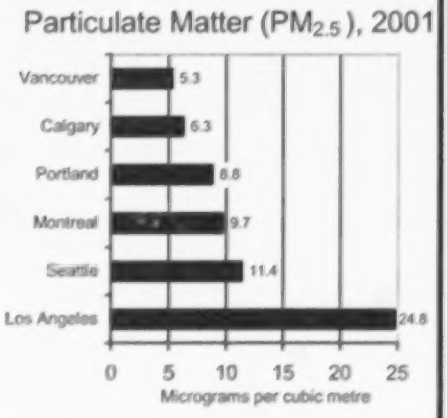
In general, Vancouver and most other BC cities have significantly better air quality than many cities across Canada. Vancouver ranked third behind St. John's, Newfoundland and Sydney, Nova Scotia in the concentration of $PM_{2.5}$ particulates in the air in 2001. Although Vancouver ranked second behind Charlottetown in 2000 it consistently ranked first among the seven Canadian cities that have PM_{10} data for 1997 through 2000.

Some BC interior communities have worse air quality than many other cities across the country. Of the seventeen BC sites that reported $PM_{2.5}$ data for 2001, two had between 6.0 and 7.0 micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m^3) of fine particulates, one had close to 8.0 µg/m^3 and one had 9.4 µg/m^3 of fine particulates.

Notes: Nationwide air quality data is available for many communities, not just major metropolitan areas. To keep comparisons manageable, the Progress Board has included a major metropolitan area from each province for which data is available. Many monitoring sites in Canada are switching equipment to collect $PM_{2.5}$ data. The Progress Board has switched to reporting this standard as most sites will be collecting this information and will no longer collect PM_{10} information. For 2001, PM_{10} data is not available for Halifax, NS, and St. John's, NF; $PM_{2.5}$ data is not available for Charlottetown, PEI. Toronto data for 2001 is not available due to the recent public sector labour dispute. *Last year's rank was based on PM_{10} data.

Air Quality





Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; US Environmental Protection Agency.

Description

Air quality is measured by the amount of fine particulate matter in the air. Fine particulates include dust, dirt, liquid droplets and smoke. These particles can settle in the lungs and make breathing difficult for individuals of all ages, but especially the elderly and those with prevailing cardiovascular problems. Many air quality monitors have been measuring fine particulates under 10 microns (PM_{10}), but recent findings have shown that particles 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$), pose the greatest health risk. Both Canada and the US have only recently begun to monitor $PM_{2.5}$. As such, the best available data for 1992 through 2000 is PM_{10} while the best data for 2001 and subsequent years is $PM_{2.5}$.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)*

By Major Metro Centre (2001) – **1st (1st)****

1-Year Progress Check – **n/a**

Period Progress Rank – **n/a**

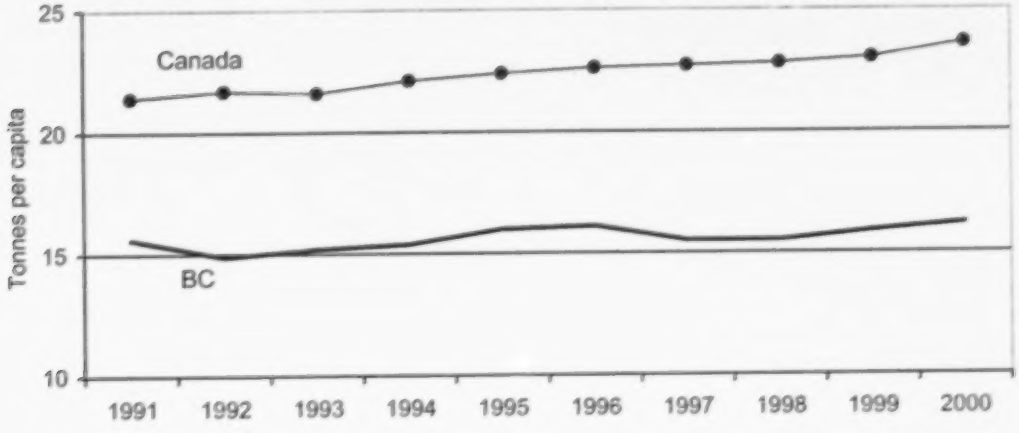
How does BC Compare?

Vancouver had the lowest annual mean concentration of fine particulates ($PM_{2.5}$) in its air in 2001; Los Angeles had the highest. Using the PM_{10} standard, Vancouver's air quality remained steady from 1996 to 2000, while it improved in Portland (15.4% decrease) over the same period and improved in Toronto (5.3% decrease) and in Montreal (12.0% decrease) between 1997 and 2000. Air quality in Edmonton and Seattle deteriorated over the 1996 to 2000 time period.

Notes: Nationwide air quality data is available for many communities, not just major metropolitan areas. To keep comparisons manageable, the Progress Board has included a major metropolitan area from each of the provinces and states included within our supplemental US comparisons. Many monitoring sites in Canada are switching equipment to collect $PM_{2.5}$ data and many sites in the US now collect both PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ data. The Progress Board has switched to reporting the $PM_{2.5}$ standard following the transition in Canadian monitoring. Toronto data for 2001 is not available due to the recent public sector labour dispute. *Last year's rank was based on PM_{10} data. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because Ottawa was included in last year's report; as Ottawa falls outside of our inclusion parameters it has been dropped.

Performance Indicator 15 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Environment, Health and Society

Greenhouse Gas Emissions per capita for BC and Canada



Sources: BC Progress Board; Ministry of Water, Land, and Air Protection; Environment Canada.

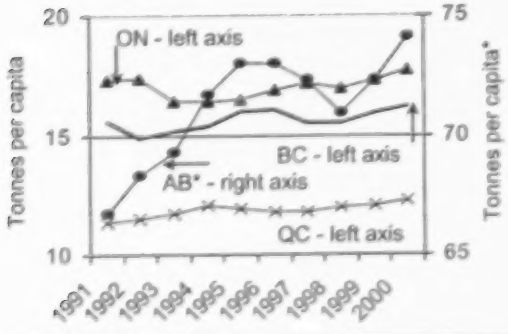
Description

Energy prices, industrial structure, consumption patterns and weather are major influences on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This indicator measures how many tonnes of greenhouse gases are emitted on a per person basis per year. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, ozone, methane and nitrous oxide.

Why it's Important

Human activities are increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere, and may be contributing to climate change.

Provinces - Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2000) – 3rd (3rd)
1-Year Progress Check (1999-2000) – 4th (10th)**
Period Progress Rank (1991-2000) – 3rd (4th)**

How Does BC Compare?

In 2000, BC's per capita GHG emission levels were third lowest in Canada at 16.2 tonnes, a 3.9% increase from 1991, when emissions were 15.6 tonnes per capita. In 2000, Quebec had the lowest per capita GHG emissions at 12.3 tonnes, while Alberta had the highest at 74.1 tonnes per capita. The Canadian average in 2000 was 23.6 tonnes per capita.

BC's reliance on "clean" hydroelectric power generation contributes to its favourable ranking relative to most other provinces. Approximately 40% of Alberta's GHG emissions are from the petro-chemical industry, with coal-based electricity generation also contributing significantly to its emissions.

In 2000, vehicle transport accounted for 37.5% of total GHG emissions in BC.

Notes: *Alberta's per capita GHG emissions are by far the highest in the country. Alberta's emissions are tracked on the right axis in the above figure. **Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report due to data revisions.

BC and The Kyoto Protocol

By Canadian standards B.C. has an excellent record on Greenhouse Gas emissions. According to the most recent data, BC was the third lowest emitter of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) in the country in 2000, producing 9.1% of national emissions despite the fact that the province is home to 13.2% of the Canadian population and accounts for about 12.0% of national GDP.

Global warming has registered international concern for well over a decade. In 1992, global apprehension led to negotiation and ratification of the United Nations' Framework on Climate Change. The Kyoto Protocol, signed in Japan in 1997, followed this preliminary meeting. This second agreement outlined specific targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions and provided for enforcement mechanisms. Final changes to the agreement were completed at Bonn and Marrakech in 2001, adding provisions for emissions trading and carbon "sinks" to the previous accord.

There is considerable debate over the economic implications of Canada ratifying the Kyoto Protocol. If ratified, the Protocol would force Canada to reduce its GHG emissions to 94 percent of 1990 levels (or 570 Mt CO2 per year) by the agreed upon commitment period of 2008-2012. Other countries are required to reduce their GHG emission levels by a greater or lesser amount based on individual circumstances. Canada, with a widely dispersed population and cold climate, is the world's second highest per capita emitter of carbon dioxide. Many international analyses show it to be one of the hardest hit signatories to the agreement, possibly becoming the largest purchaser of emission credits.

In 2001, Canada's largest trading partner, the United States, pulled out of the agreement. Claiming that the Protocol was "fatally flawed" and would have a profound economic impact, the U.S. stated that it will neither ratify nor be bound by the provisions of the agreement. Emissions reductions will likely increase business costs in Canada relative to the U.S., thereby increasing the costs of Canadian exports and putting Canadian goods at a competitive disadvantage in U.S. markets. In short, B.C. is in a precarious position and will likely suffer disproportionately from the Protocol's proposed emission reductions. Consider the following:

Population Growth - BC's population increased by 23% since 1990 with 40% growth between 1990 and 2010 predicted. The problem of reducing GHG emissions is exacerbated by population growth, putting B.C. at a disadvantage versus provinces that have experienced slower growth – or even population declines – since 1990.

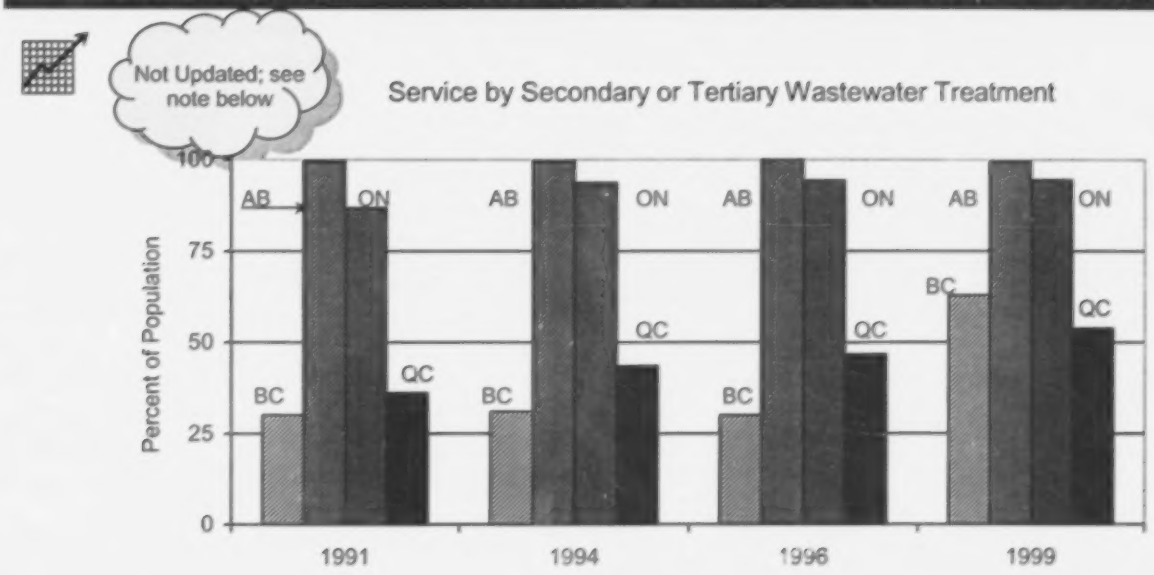
Current Emissions - B.C. has low GHG emissions by Canadian standards – the majority of provincial electricity production comes from emission-free hydro, implying B.C. has little scope to reduce emissions through fuel switching or other methods available to jurisdictions that rely on fossil fuels. Current emissions are largely transportation based (40% vs. 28% national average), a sector where fuel switching and emission reductions are extremely costly, especially given B.C.'s physical landscape.

Developing Industries - BC has a large and growing upstream oil and gas industry that promises to expand significantly in coming years, thus providing essential economic support for many rural B.C. communities that have been adversely affected by the declining forestry sector and a needed source of basic income from export markets.

Most studies and models estimate that total Canadian GDP loss by 2010 will be between 2.5% (roughly $30 billion) and 0.2% of GDP. Canada has received international agreement on a system of tradable emission permits, limited credits for the carbon "sinks" provided by the nation's vast forests, and continues to seek credits for its exports of non-GHG producing energy sources such as natural gas and hydro electricity. Other issues are more difficult to measure and therefore have rarely been included in existing economic models. These include the costs of higher vehicle and fuel prices, and possible relocation of populations to urban centers. Any benefits gained through savings in health care, environmental quality and energy usage must also be considered.

Without clearly defined policies, regulatory targets, and programs it is impossible to adequately assess an agreement that will have far reaching environmental and economic implications for generations to come.

Performance Indicator 16 Wastewater Treatment Environment, Health and Society



Sources: BC Progress Board; Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; Environment Canada.

Description
This indicator measures the percentage of population served by sewers that have wastewater treatment facilities.

Wastewater is treated in four steps: preliminary and primary treatments filter solid material, secondary treatment removes greater suspended material, and tertiary treatment aims to remove substances such as contaminants.

Why it's Important
The purpose of wastewater treatment is to protect human health and to reduce stress on the receiving environment.

Wastewater consists of human waste and harmful substances such as motor oil, pesticide residue, paint thinner, pharmaceuticals and solvents that threaten human health and ecological balance.

Municipal wastewater is one of the largest sources of pollution in Canadian waters. Wastewater contributes to ecological and human health impacts including algae blooms, fish kills and beach and shellfish area closures.

Substances present in sewage effluent are capable of affecting the endocrine systems of biological organisms. This may result in adverse health effects, possibly including reproductive and immune system dysfunction and neurological disorders.

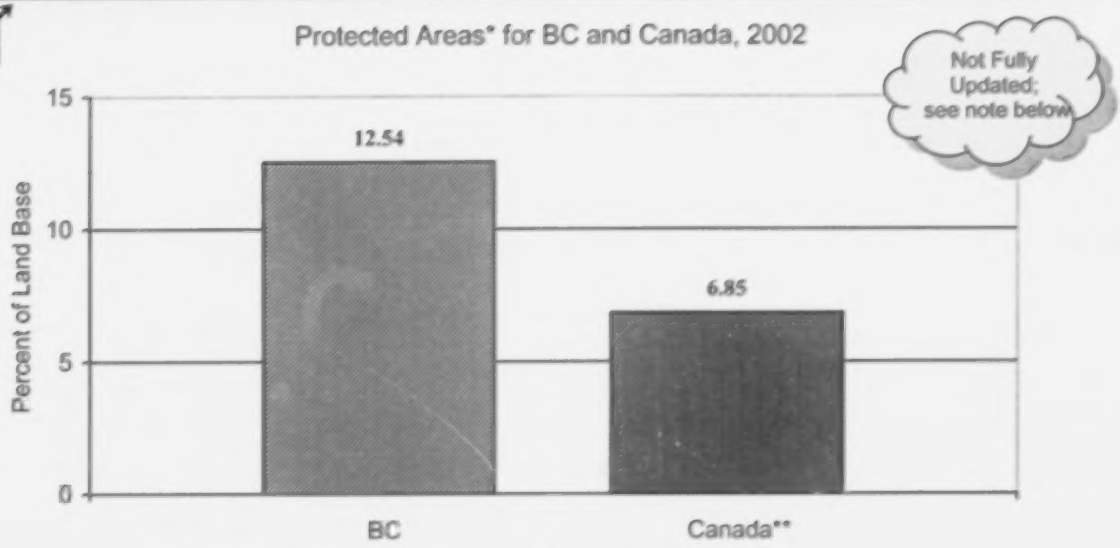
Where BC Ranks
By Province (1999) - **5th**
1-Year Progress Check (1999) - **n/a**
Period Progress Rank (1991- 1999) - **1st**

How Does BC Compare?
In 1991, 30.0% of BC's population served by sewers had wastewater treatment facilities. By 1999, that figure had increased to 63.0% due to an upgrade of a Lower Mainland plant from primary to secondary treatment. In comparison, over 90% of the population served by sewers in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario had secondary or tertiary wastewater treatment processes.

Generally, provinces discharging sewage into inland waters have a higher percentage of the population served by secondary or tertiary treatment than those discharging sewage into marine waters.

Note: Wastewater treatment data is not available on an annual basis. Data included are based on a survey conducted every three years by Environment Canada; 2002 data should be available in 2003.

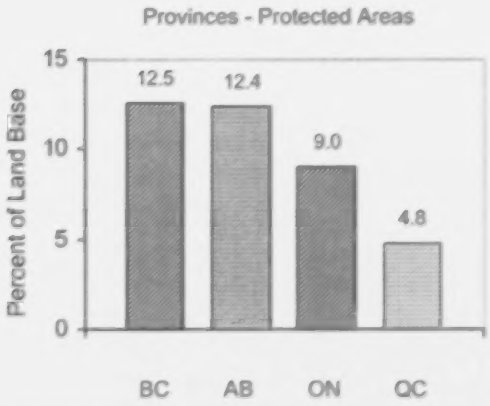
Performance Indicator 17 Protected Areas Environment, Health and Society



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

Description

This indicator measures the overall percentage of a jurisdiction's land base that is protected from development. In British Columbia, protected areas consist of national parks, ecological reserves, class A and C parks, recreation areas and protected areas under the *Environment and Land Use Act*.



Why it's Important

Areas classified as protected are shielded from resource extraction or human activity that results in long term or large-scale impacts on the land's natural character. Such areas are also maintained as a "stock" of the land-base for heritage, aesthetic, biodiversity and other preservation values.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2002) – **1st (1st)**
1-Year Progress Check – **n/a**
Period Progress Rank – **n/a**

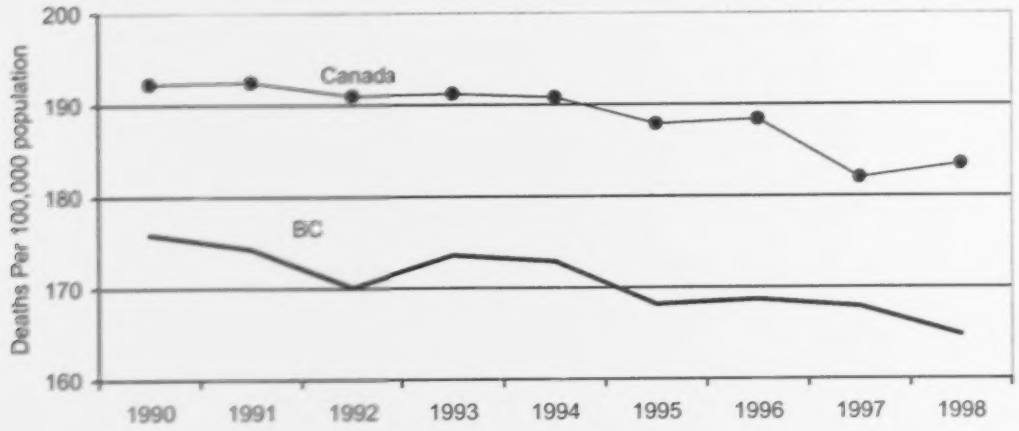
How Does BC Compare?

In 2002, BC ranks first in Canada for the percentage of the land base set aside in protected areas, at 12.5%. Alberta ranks second with 12.4% of its land base protected. New Brunswick ranks tenth among the provinces at 3.2%.***

Notes: *These values are lower than those reported in the 2001 Report because some areas that were set aside on an interim basis were included in last year's data; they have been excluded from the data presented above. **Protected areas data collection is not systematic across the country. Several provinces have not reported 2001 or 2002 data; therefore the value for Canada is from 2000. *** 2001 data. Protected areas are classified under IUCN (World Conservation Union) classification I, II, III – which does not allow resource extraction.

Performance Indicator 18 Cancer Mortality Environment, Health and Society

Cancer Mortality Rate per 100,000 Population, BC and the Canadian Average



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

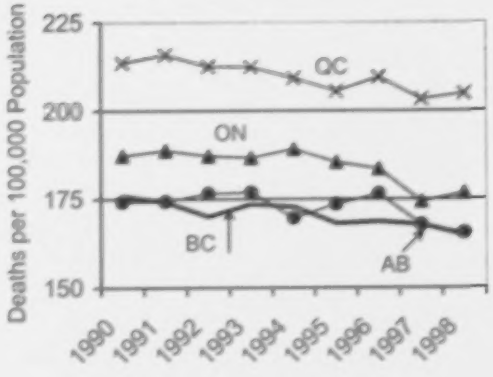
Description

Cancer is a disease in which abnormal cells form in human organs or tissue and grow to form a tumour. Two-thirds of all cancers are caused by a person's lifestyle, such as diet, physical activity, drinking and smoking habits. This indicator provides insight about the health related lifestyle choices made by people within a jurisdiction.

Why it's Important

Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in Canada. Health Canada estimates that there will be as many as 65,300 cancer deaths in 2001.

Provinces - Cancer Mortality



Approximately 40% of men and 35% of women will develop cancer. Fully 25% of men and 20% of women will die of cancer. Tobacco use is the leading cause of cancer deaths (30%) and is responsible for approximately 85% of lung cancer cases. Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada with approximately 60,000 cases diagnosed every year*.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (1998) – **1st (3rd)**
1-Year Progress Check (1997-1998) – **1st (9th)**
Period Progress Rank (1991-1998) – **2nd (4th)**

How Does BC Compare?

In 1998, approximately 165 people per 100,000 died from cancer in BC. This was the lowest rate in Canada, and 11.3 percent below the Canadian average of 184 people per 100,000. BC saw a 6.3% drop from its 1990 mortality rate of 176; this was the second largest decline in Canada. The Canadian average declined by 4.6% since 1990.

The most commonly diagnosed cancers continue to be prostrate cancer for men and breast cancer for women. Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death in both men and women.

Note: *Cancer, Health Canada, 2001 (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/diseases/cancer.html).

Mortality from Cardiovascular Disease

Cardiovascular disease (heart disease and stroke) is the leading reason for hospitalization for men and women (excluding childbirth). The general term cardiovascular disease includes all diseases of the circulatory system including acute myocardial infarction, ischemic heart disease, valvular heart disease, peripheral vascular disease, arrhythmias, high blood pressure and stroke.

Cardiovascular disease is the cause of death of over one-third of Canadians. It not only affects the elderly but is also the third leading cause of premature death under age 75. Mortality rates for ischemic heart disease and acute myocardial infarction continue to decrease, but mortality rates for stroke have not changed significantly during the past ten years.

The number of elderly in Canada has been increasing in recent years. As a result of this trend, there has been an increase in the number of deaths due to stroke and ischemic heart disease. This trend is expected to continue for the next fifteen years.

Heart disease has a major impact on an individual's quality of life, including chronic pain or discomfort, activity restriction, disability, and unemployment.

Mortality Rates for Cardiovascular Disease (per 100,000 population, age standardized)

	1990	1995	1999	1999 Rank	Percent Change 1990 - 1999	Rank for Percent Change 1990 - 1999
BC	253	226	206	1	(18.7)	4
AB	261	247	233	6	(11.0)	10
SK	272	242	230	5	(15.4)	6
MB	269	274	238	7	(11.6)	9
ON	276	254	227	4	(17.9)	5
QC	291	257	220	2	(24.3)	1
NB	281	267	243	9	(13.5)	8
NS	295	269	226	3	(23.3)	2
PE	305	283	242	8	(20.5)	3
NF	343	313	293	10	(14.3)	7
Canada	277	253	225	n/a	(18.9)	n/a

Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

British Columbia has the lowest mortality rate from cardiovascular disease in Canada at 206 people per 100,000 population in 1999. This is 6.6% below the next lowest rate, found in Quebec and 30.0% lower than the highest rate in the country, found in Newfoundland and Labrador. British Columbia also had the lowest rate in 1990 and had the fourth largest decrease in cardiovascular disease mortality in the country between 1990 and 1999. The rate in BC dropped by 18.7%, roughly in line with the Canadian average, but less than decreases in Quebec (24.3%), Nova Scotia (23.3%), and Prince Edward Island (20.5%).

Note: This exposition was compiled with text from various areas of Health Canada's website.

Obesity: A Risk Factor in Heart and Other Disease

Obesity, especially abdominal obesity, is associated with an increased risk of ischemic heart disease. Ischemic heart disease (also called coronary heart disease) is any condition in which heart muscle is damaged or works inefficiently because of an absence or relative deficiency of its blood supply. Most often caused by atherosclerosis, it includes angina pectoris, acute myocardial infarction, chronic ischemic heart disease and sudden death. Obesity and an abdominal fat distribution are also associated with an increased prevalence of diabetes, high blood pressure and elevated plasma cholesterol.

Individuals with a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 27 are usually overweight and have a greater likelihood of developing health problems. The BMI is calculated as weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in meters. Those with a body mass index of less than 20 may be underweight which may be associated with health problems in some people. A BMI of 20 to 24 is considered acceptable for most whereas a BMI of 25 to 27 may lead to health problems in some people. Those with a BMI in this range may possibly be overweight.

Percentage of Obese People (BMI greater than 27)

	1994/95	1998/99	2000/01	2000/01 rank	Percentage Increase in the Number of Obese People 1994/95 - 2000/01	Rank for the Increase in the Number of Obese People 1994/95 - 2000/01
BC	25.7	28.4	27.0	1	5.2	4
AB	30.5	31.7	33.0	4	8.1	6
SK	36.0	38.8	39.1	8	8.6	7
MB	36.5	39.2	35.7	5	(2.1)	1
ON	30.4	31.7	32.6	3	7.1	5
QC	25.0	26.9	29.0	2	16.2	10
NB	37.8	42.3	39.2	9	3.7	3
NS	34.9	37.3	38.9	7	11.3	9
PE	37.3	38.5	38.3	6	2.7	2
NF	39.0	42.7	42.8	10	9.8	8
Canada	29.4	31.2	31.9	n/a	8.6	n/a

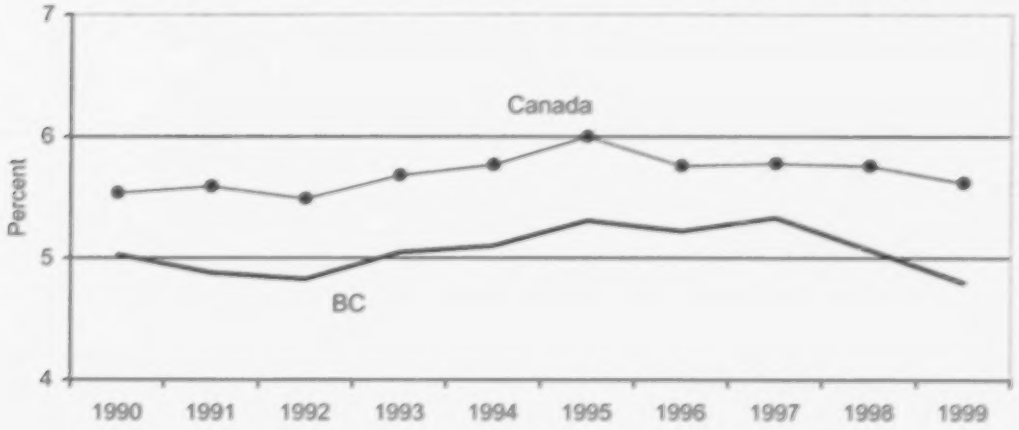
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

In 2000/01, thirty-two percent of Canadian adults were obese with the prevalence being greater among men than women. British Columbia had the lowest percentage (27.0%) of obese people in the country, followed by Quebec (29.0%) and Ontario (32.6%). The prevalence of obesity increased between 1994/95 and 2000/01 in every province except Manitoba, growing by 8.6% for the country as a whole and by between 2.7% (Prince Edward Island) and 16.2% (Quebec).

Note: This description was compiled with text from various areas of Health Canada's website.

Performance Indicator 19 | Low Birth Weight | Environment, Health and Society

Low Weight Births as a Percent of Total Live Births, BC and Canada

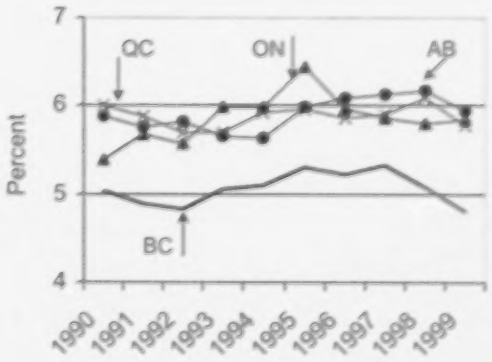


Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

Newborns weighing less than 2,500 grams are considered to be low birth weight infants. This indicator is the number of live births where birth weight was less than 2,500 grams expressed as a percentage of total live births. Factors that contribute to low birth weight are socio-economic status, social support, stress and personal habits. This indicator serves as a proxy for a jurisdiction's overall social condition.

Provinces - Low Weight Births



Why it's Important

Low birth weight newborns have a substantially higher rate of post birth illness and death. In addition, long-term health problems, lower IQ and academic achievement, increased disabilities and hospitalization rates are associated with low birth weight.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (1999) – **1st** (**2nd**)
1-Year Progress Check (1998-1999) – **3rd** (**2nd**)
Period Progress Rank (1991-1999) – **3rd** (**3rd**)

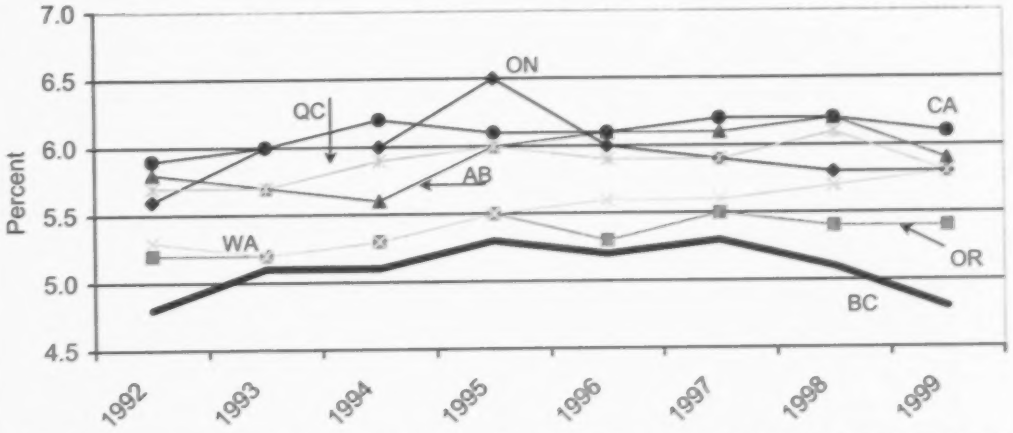
How Does BC Compare?

In 1999, British Columbia ranked first in Canada with only 4.8% of all live births weighing less than 2,500 grams. This compares favourably with the Canadian average of 5.6%. From 1990 to 1999, BC's rate for low birth weight babies decreased by 4.7%, the third best improvement in the country. Nationally, there was a 1.6% increase between 1990 and 1999.

The decrease in the proportion of low birth weight newborns in BC between 1990 and 1999, coupled with increases in several provinces, moved BC from a fourth place rank in 1990 to first overall in 1999.

Performance Indicator 19 — Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Low Birth Weight



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Department of Health and Human Services.

Description:
Newborns weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) are classified as low birth weight infants. The factors that might contribute to a low birth weight baby include socio-economic status, social support, stress and personal habits. Low birth weight babies are prone to higher rates of illness and have a higher probability of hospitalization, future health problems and disabilities. This indicator serves as a proxy for the overall social condition of a province or state.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (1999) – **1st (1st)**
1-Year Progress Check (1998-1999) – **1st (1st)**
Period Progress Rank (1993-1999) – **1st (4th)***

How Does BC Compare?
BC had the lowest incidence of low birth weight infants of the seven jurisdictions reviewed. BC's low birth weight rate was below the rates seen in the other provinces and states in every year between 1992 and 1999. In fact, BC's peak low birth weight ratio (5.3% in 1995 and 1997) is below the lowest rates seen in most other jurisdictions.

Oregon's average (1992 through 1999) low birth weight ratio is only 5.1% higher than BC's, while California's is 19.9% higher than in BC.

On average, between 1992 and 1999, 5.1% of live births in BC had a birth weight below 2,500 grams. The average in the three other provinces examined was 5.9% of live births and, in California, the average was 6.1%.

Note: *Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because we were able to add data for 1992.

Access to Health Care

Description:
The Health Services Access Survey (HSAS) was developed by Statistics Canada with the intention of obtaining comparable and comprehensive information on the patterns of health care usage and potential barriers Canadians face when they try to access health care services. The 2001 results are the first of their kind in Canada. Statistics Canada intends to make this an annual survey. The Progress Board may be able to use this information for additional benchmarks in the future.

Among the key findings:

- An estimated 4.3 million Canadians reported difficulties accessing first contact services and approximately 1.4 million Canadians reported difficulties accessing specialized services. Lengthy waits and problems contacting a health care provider were frequently cited by those who experienced difficulty accessing care.
- One in five individuals who required specialized services indicated that waiting for care affected their lives. Most of these individuals reported that they experienced worry, stress and anxiety, pain or diminished health as a result of waiting for care.

Self-Reported Unmet Health Needs
Statistics Canada identifies self-reported unmet health needs as an emerging indicator of access to health care services. The definition for unmet health needs is broad, including anytime in the last twelve months that individuals felt they needed health information or advice or health care services that were not received.

Unmet Health Care Needs by Type of Service, 2001

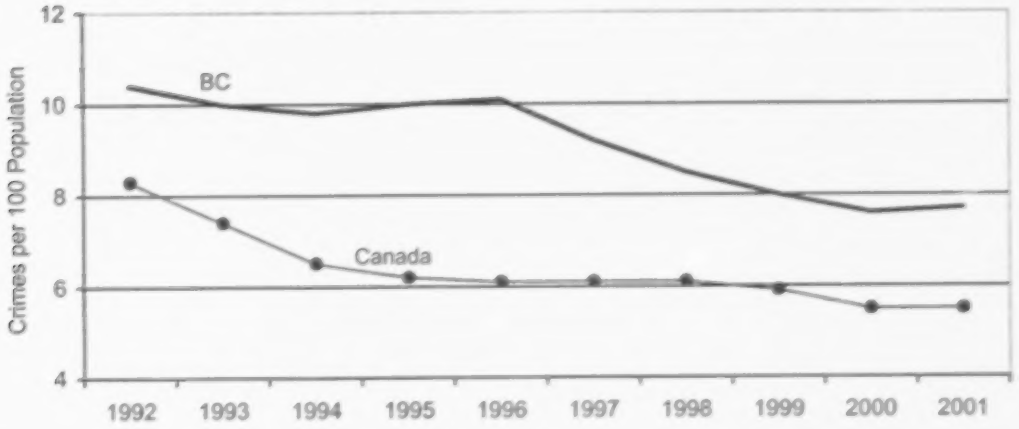
	All Services**		Health Information or Advice		Health Care Services	
	Percent of Population	Rank	Percent of Population	Rank	Percent of Population	Rank
BC	11.6	7	5.5	7	8.6	6
AB	11.4	6	5.9	8	7.7	5
SK*	11.3	5	6.7	10	7.4	3
MB*	13.5	10	6.4	9	10.4	8
ON*	11.2	4	4.0	1	9.4	7
QC*	9.9	1	5.0	4	7.3	2
NB*	10.1	2	5.4	5	6.7	1
NS*	10.2	3	4.6	3	7.6	4
PE	12.6	9	5.4	5	10.5	9
NF*	12.4	8	4.3	2	10.9	10
Canada	11.0	n/a	4.8	n/a	8.5	n/a

Notes: * High sampling variability present in "Health Information or Advice".
** Includes "Health Information or Advice" and " Health Care Services".
Source: Statistics Canada (2001), Access to Health Care Services in Canada.

When asked for reasons for the unmet need, approximately half (49.4%) of the respondents said it was due to lengthy waits for care. Other reasons included that the service was not available when needed (23.3%) or not available in their area (13.3%). Almost half (49.7%) of the individuals reporting unmet needs for health care services had tried to access services from a physician's office, while 18.1% had tried a hospital and 18.9% had tried an emergency room.

Performance Indicator 20 Personal and Property Crime Environment, Health and Society

Personal and Property Crime Rate for BC and Canada



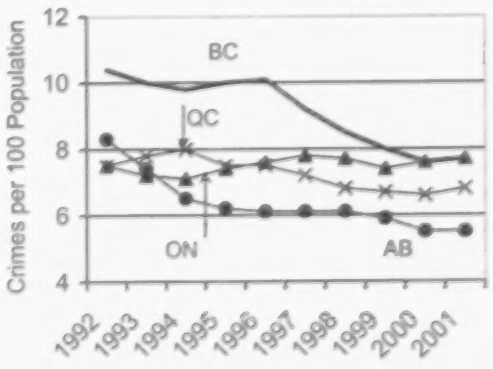
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

Personal crime includes those offenses in the Criminal Code known to police that deal with the application or threat of application of force to a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, robbery and abduction.

Property crime includes incidents known to police involving unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but don't involve the threat or use of violence, (e.g. theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods).

Provinces - Crime Rate



Why it's Important

The crime rate is both a reflection of community safety and security and an indicator of other social and economic problems. It can reflect a lack of employment opportunities, inadequate education or social dysfunction. Crime is costly to society, both from individual and community perspectives.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank)

By Province (2001) – **10th (10th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **7th (3rd)**
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **6th (5th)**

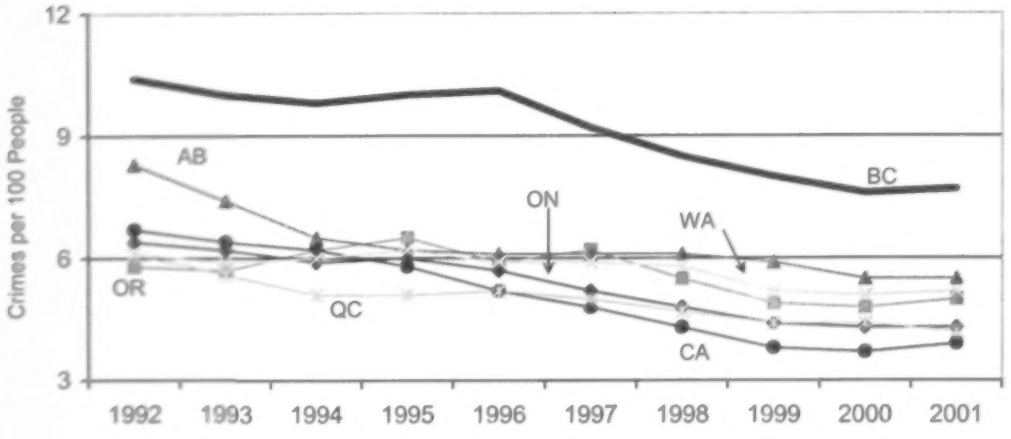
How Does BC Compare?

The crime rate in BC has fallen from 10.4 per 100 people in 1992 to 7.7 crimes per 100 people in 2001, a 25.9% decrease. Although this is a substantial decrease, four other provinces saw larger decreases over this time period.

BC had the highest crime rate of any province in every year between 1992 and 2001. On average, between 1992 and 2001, BC had the highest property crime rate and the third highest personal crime rate among the provinces. The 1992-2001 average personal crime rates in Saskatchewan and Manitoba are 5.2% and 17.4% higher, respectively, than in BC.

Performance Indicator 20 — Supplemental Information: US Comparison

Personal and Property Crime Rate



Sources: BC Progress Board; Statistics Canada; US Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Description:
The personal (violent) and property crime rate is based on the number of reported crimes per 100 people. Personal (violent) crime includes all degrees of murder, rape, robbery and assault. Property crime includes burglary, theft and arson.

A crime rate that is higher relative to another jurisdiction sends a signal that one is at a higher probability of being the victim of a crime. Also, a higher crime rate results in a perceived decline in social control.

Where BC Ranks (And Last Year's Rank):
By Jurisdiction (2001) – **7th (7th)**
1-Year Progress Check (2000-2001) – **3rd (2nd)***
Period Progress Rank (1992-2001) – **5th (5th)****

How Does BC Compare?
British Columbia has the highest crime rate per 100 people among the provinces and states reviewed. In fact, BC had the highest crime rate in every year examined; BC's rate was between 24.7% and 65.2% higher than the next highest jurisdiction between 1992 and 2001.

The overall crime rate fell between 1992 and 2001 in every jurisdiction reviewed. The largest decline was in California (41.4%) and the smallest was in Oregon (12.9%). British Columbia's decline was the fifth largest at 25.9%.

In 2001, Ontario recorded the highest ratio of violent crime to total crime (21.0%) among the jurisdictions reviewed. Only 6.1% of Oregon's crimes were violent in nature, compared to 15.9% for BC's.

Notes: * Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because of an historical revision.
** Does not match the rank in the 2001 Report because additional data were included (for 1990-1994).

IV. Comparison of The Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), the Victoria CMA, and Regional British Columbia

Economy, Innovation and Education

Regional Performance Indicators

1. Jobs: Employment Rate
2. Taxfiler's Employment Income
3. Manufacturing Shipments
4. Retail Sales
5. Housing Starts - Dwelling Units
6. Non-Residential Building Permits
7. Secondary School Graduates
8. University Completion
9. Scientists and Engineers Employed
10. Net New Business Formation

Overview: Comparison of Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC

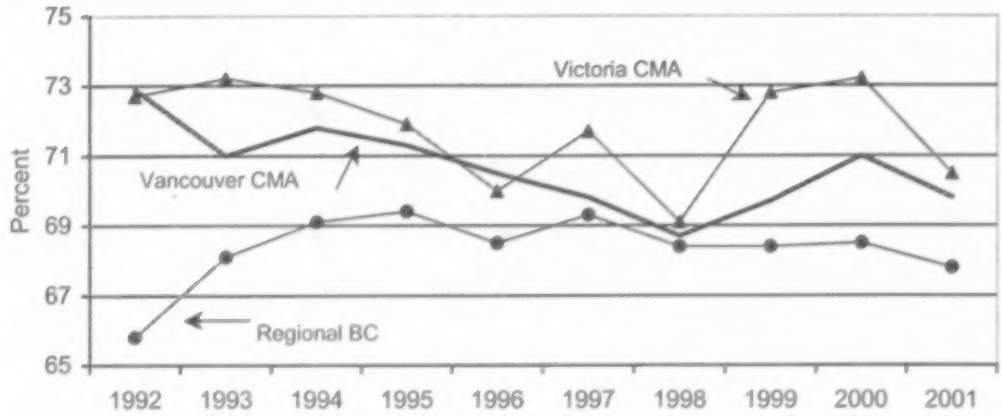
Economy, Innovation and Education

	Most Recent Data	Metric Description	Van. CMA	Vic. CMA	RBC
1. Jobs: Employment Rate	2001	% Pop. (15-64)	69.8	70.5	67.8
2. Taxfiler's Employment Income	1999	% of Total	55.4	8.0	36.4
3. Manufacturing Shipments	1999	% of Total	22.9	0.9	76.1
4. Retail Sales	2001	% of Total	49.8	N/A	50.2
5. Housing Starts	2001	% of Total	63.0	7.3	29.6
6. Non-Res. Building Permits	2001	% of Total	54.7	7.9	37.2
7. Secondary School Graduates	2001	% Pop. (18 yrs.)	82.9	75.1	73.9
8. University Completion	2001	% Pop. (25-54)	25.0	25.0	12.1
9. Scientists and Engineers Empl.	2001	% Employment	6.9	8.3	4.6
10. Net New Business Formation	2001	% of Total	69.3	7.2	23.6

Performance Indicator 1 — BC Regional Comparison

Jobs: Employment Rate

Employment Rate (Ages 15 to 64), Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats, Statistics Canada.

Description
This indicator shows, for the population aged 15 to 64, the number of employed persons (i.e. working for pay or profit, doing unpaid work contributing to the operation of a family farm or business) expressed as a percentage of the total.

Why it's Important
The employment rate is an effective measure of labour utilization. High labour utilization traditionally accompanies strong economic activity.

Analysis
The employment rate in the Vancouver CMA fell by 3.1 percentage points (4.3 percent) from 72.9 in 1992 to 69.8 in 2001. The employment rate in the Victoria CMA fell by 2.1 percentage points (2.9 percent) from 72.7 in 1992 to 70.5 in 2001. The employment rate for Regional BC increased by 2.0 percentage points (3.0 percent) from 65.8 in 1992 to 67.8 in 2001. Overall, BC's employment rate fell by 0.9 percentage points (1.2 percent) from 70.0 in 1992 to 69.1 in 2001.

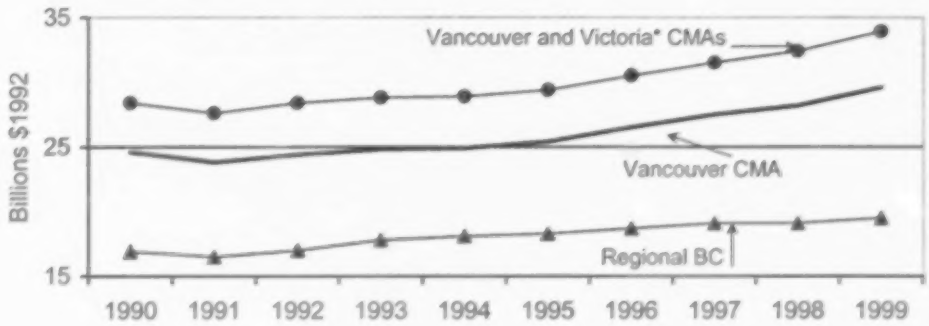
In the Vancouver CMA in 2001, 69.8 percent of the people aged 15-64 were employed. This was 1.1 percent lower than the ratio of 70.5 in the Victoria CMA and 2.8 percent higher than the ratio of 67.8 in Regional BC.

The chart above shows that the ratios fluctuate by roughly three to four percentage points over the period. The average ratio in the Vancouver CMA between 1992 and 2001 was 70.6%; the average in the Victoria CMA was 71.8%. The average ratio in Regional BC was 68.4% and the average for the province as a whole was 69.8%.

Performance Indicator 2 — BC Regional Comparison

Taxfiler's Employment Income ($1992)

Taxfiler's Employment Income ($1992), Vancouver, Victoria*, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Canada Customs and Revenue Agency.

Description

This indicator measures the income earned by British Columbians from employment and self-employment as reported to the Canadian Customs and Revenue Agency on tax returns. For tax purposes, employment/self-employment includes wages, salaries, taxable allowances, benefits, commissions, tips and gratuities as well as net income from fishing and farming operations, net professional and unincorporated business income and net commission income.

Why it's Important

This indicator is a measure of economic activity and individual prosperity.

Analysis

In real terms, employment income grew by 20.3% and 13.8% between 1990 and 1999 in the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs, respectively. Real employment income grew by 15.6% in Regional BC and by 18.1% in BC as a whole. Average annual growth in real employment income was 2.1% in the Vancouver CMA, 1.5% in the Victoria CMA, 1.6% in Regional BC, and 1.9% in BC as a whole.

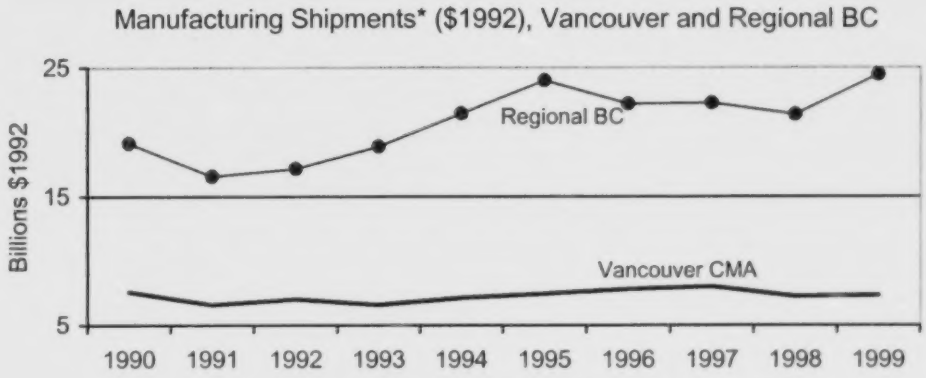
In 1990, real employment income of taxfilers in the Vancouver CMA was $24.6 billion. Real employment income in the Victoria CMA was $3.8 billion, real employment income in Regional BC was $16.9 billion and the provincial total was $45.3 billion. By 1999, employment income had grown to $29.6 billion in the Vancouver CMA, $4.3 billion in the Victoria CMA, and $19.5 billion in Regional BC for a provincial total of $53.5 billion.

The shares of employment income earned in the various regions in BC remained relatively constant over the 1990s. In 1990, Vancouver accounted for 54.4% of taxfiler's employment income, Victoria accounted for 8.4%, and Regional BC for 37.3%. In 1999, the shares were: 55.4% in Vancouver, 8.0% in Victoria, and 36.4% in Regional BC.

Notes: * The Victoria CMA consists of the Capital Regional District less the Gulf Islands for this indicator. This indicator was reported in nominal dollars in the 2001 Report.

Performance Indicator 3 — BC Regional Comparison

Manufacturing Shipments



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description
This indicator is a measure of overall manufacturing activity in billions of 1992 dollars. The three major sources of BC's manufacturing shipments are the wood, metal fabricating, and food industries. Wood products is the largest at 33.0% of total manufacturing shipments, followed by food at 9.5% and metal fabricating at 5.3%. Combined, these industries were responsible for 47.7% of BC manufacturing shipments in 1999.**

Why it's Important
This indicator plays a vital role in measuring an area's overall economic activity.

Analysis
Manufacturing shipments remained an important part of overall provincial GDP throughout the 1990s. Manufacturing shipments were equal to 31.4% of BC's GDP in 1990 and 29.6% in 1999. In 1990, real manufacturing shipments were $26.9 billion; they were $32.1 billion in 1999.

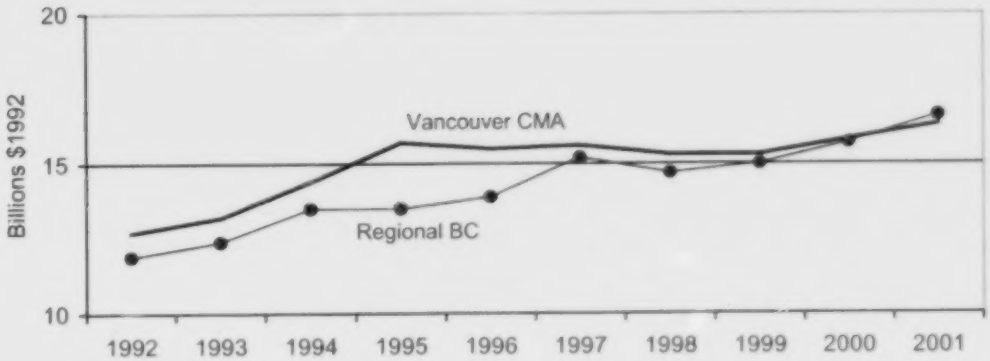
The bulk of manufacturing shipments originate outside of the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs. The proportion of shipments from these two cities fell in the 1990s. In 1990, the Vancouver CMA was responsible for 28.1% of all shipments, the Victoria CMA for only 0.9%, and Regional BC for the remaining 71.0%. In 1999, the Vancouver CMA's shipments were 22.9% of the total, the Victoria CMA's were again 0.9%, and shipments from the rest of the province were 76.1% of the total.

Notes: *Victoria's shipments represent less than 1.0% of the total and have been left off this figure. This indicator was presented in nominal dollars in the 2001 Report.
** BC Stats, Quarterly Regional Statistics, Interim Report, Second Quarter, 2002.

Performance Indicator 4 — BC Regional Comparison

Retail Sales

Retail Sales* ($1992), Vancouver and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator measures sales at retail outlets. Direct sales which bypass the retail store such as vending machine sales and door-to-door printed materials sold by a publisher directly are excluded; sales taxes and non-operating revenue are also excluded.

Why it's Important

Retail sales constitute a significant proportion of GDP and are used as a measure of economic performance. Retail trade is one of BC's largest sources of employment. In 2001, 240,900 people were employed in BC's retail trade.**

Analysis

Retail sales are evenly split between the Vancouver CMA and the rest of the province. Between 1992 and 2001, retail sales in the Vancouver CMA ranged from a low of 49.8% of the total in 2001 to a high of 53.9% in 1995.

Inflation adjusted retail sales in the Vancouver CMA showed strong growth between 1992 and 1995, moving from $12.7 to $15.7 billion. Real retail sales were flat in Vancouver from 1995 to 1999 with an average annual growth of negative 0.6%. Growth in real retail sales in the Vancouver CMA picked up again in the 1999-2001 period with a gain of $988 million from $15.3 billion in 1999 to $16.3 billion in 2001.

Between 1992 and 2001, average annual growth in real retail sales were stronger in Regional BC (3.4%) than in the Vancouver CMA (2.9%) and sales outside of the Vancouver CMA did not stagnate between 1995 and 1999. Real retail sales outside of the Vancouver CMA were lower in 1998 ($14.7 billion) than in 1997 ($15.2 billion); other than this decrease they grew by an average of 4.7%, year over year, between 1992 and 2001.

Notes: *Retail sales data are not available for Victoria. This indicator was presented in nominal dollars in the 2001 Report.
**Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Performance Indicator 5 BC Regional Comparison

Housing Starts - Dwelling Units

Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Description

This indicator measures the number of dwelling units started and the number of permits issued for construction. It represents the count of dwelling units in new structures designated for non-transient year-round occupancy. The start is recorded when a footing is installed. All new units are counted for urban areas of 10,000 or greater population. Less populated areas are sampled and an estimate is included.

Why it's Important

Housing starts are considered a good leading indicator for home sales and a major indicator of economic activity and consumer confidence. Housing construction is an important generator of employment. Some estimates suggest that each housing start creates 2.8 person-years of employment.*

Analysis

Housing starts fell sharply in the 1990s. Housing starts in BC peaked at 42,807 in 1993 and fell to a low of 14,418 in 2000. Between 1993 and 2001, the average annual decrease in the number of housing starts in the Vancouver CMA was 4.0%; the average annual decrease was 2.5% in the Victoria CMA and 12.3% in Regional BC.

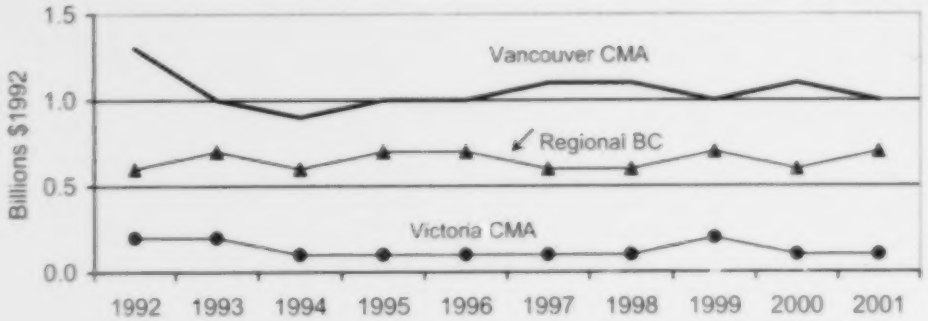
Between 2000 and 2001, housing starts grew by 32.4% in the Vancouver CMA and by 45.0% in the Victoria CMA. Housing starts outside of these two areas fell by 4.4% to a low of 5,108. Housing starts in Regional BC have fallen faster than in the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs. In 1992, Regional BC accounted for roughly half of all housing starts (48.0%); by 2001, this had fallen to 29.6%, a drop of 18.4 percentage points (38.3%).

Note: *CMHC, The Current Performance of the Housing Industry in Canada, 1999.

Performance Indicator 6 — BC Regional Comparison

Non-Residential Building Permits

Non-Residential Building Permits* ($1992) in Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description
This indicator measures the dollar value of permits issued by municipalities and regional districts for non-residential buildings. It includes industrial, commercial and institutional construction, as well as new government buildings. Also included are alterations, renovations and additions to non-residential buildings.

Why it's Important
The value of non-residential building permits issued is an important measure of a jurisdiction's economic activity and attractiveness to investors.

Analysis
In 2001, the Vancouver CMA accounted for 54.7% of the total value of non-residential building permits issued in BC; the Victoria CMA accounted for 7.9%, and Regional BC for 37.2%. These proportions were fairly constant through the 1990s.

The inflation adjusted value of non-residential building permits in 2001 in the Vancouver CMA was 20.3% ($256,534) lower than the value of permits in 1992. Similarly, the real value of permits was 14.6% ($24,852) lower in 2001 in the Victoria CMA than in 1992, while they were 5.8% ($37,554) higher in Regional BC in 2001 than in 1992.

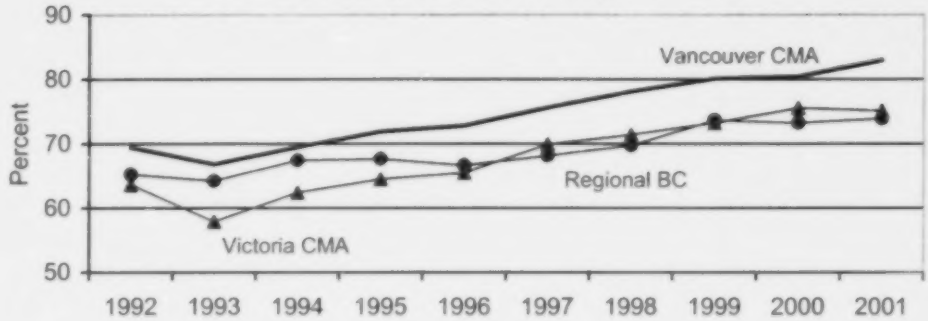
The average annual growth in the value of non-residential building permits between 1992 and 2001 was 7.6% in the Victoria CMA, 1.3% in Regional BC and negative 0.2% in the Vancouver CMA.

Note: *This indicator was presented in nominal dollars in the 2001 Report.

Performance Indicator 7 — BC Regional Comparison

Secondary School Graduates

High School Graduates as a Percent of the 18 Year Old Population, Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional of BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; BC Ministry of Education.

Description

This indicator represents the number of Grade 12 students who have graduated in the school year beginning in the year noted including those graduating as a result of August provincial exams. It is expressed as a percentage of the 18 year old population on July 1st of that year. Both public and private schools are included.

Why it's Important

Levels of education tend to correlate strongly with future personal prosperity and well-being. With the "knowledge" content of most jobs steadily increasing, high school graduation is deemed essential as a base qualification for other "higher learning".

Analysis

In 2001, 82.9% of 18 year olds in the Vancouver CMA graduated from high school. This was higher than the rates in Regional BC (73.9%) and the Victoria CMA (75.1%).

All regions in BC have seen strong growth in the proportion of 18 year olds who graduate from high school. Between 1992 and 2001, the proportion increased by 13.6 percentage points (19.6%) in the Vancouver CMA, 11.5 percentage points (18.1%) in the Victoria CMA and by 8.7 percentage points (13.3%) in Regional BC.

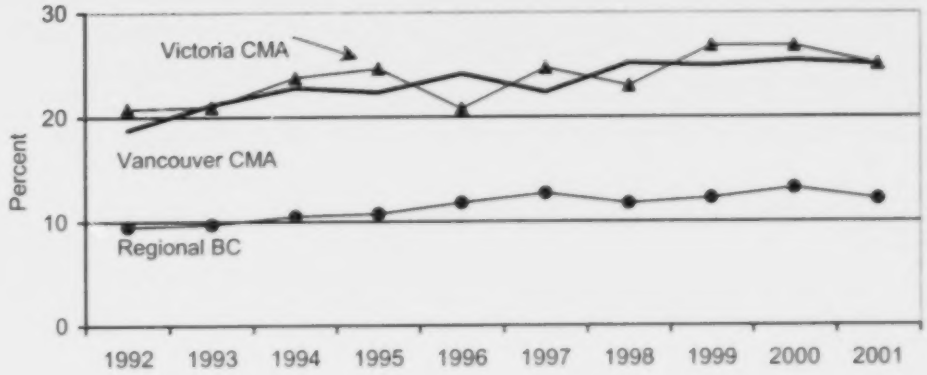
The Vancouver CMA's average annual growth rate for the proportion of the 18 year old population that graduated from high school was 2.0% between 1992 and 2001. The equivalent rates for the Victoria CMA and Regional BC are, respectively, 1.7% and 1.6%. In the Vancouver CMA the rate decreased in only one of the ten periods analysed while in the Victoria CMA and in Regional BC it decreased in three of the ten periods.

Note: There may be slight variations between graduation rates contained in this report and those reported by provincial Ministries of Education. Data used in this indicator are made comparable across jurisdictions by Statistics Canada.

Performance Indicator 8 — BC Regional Comparison

University Completion

Percent of the Population (aged 25-54) with University Completion in Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator measures the percent of the population in British Columbia, aged 25 to 54, who have completed a university education. Excluded from the measure are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves.

Why it's Important

Though there are many different forms of post-secondary credentialing, university completion is an important indication of an area's efforts to build "top" academic, managerial and entrepreneurial skills necessary for the increasingly knowledge driven economy.

Analysis

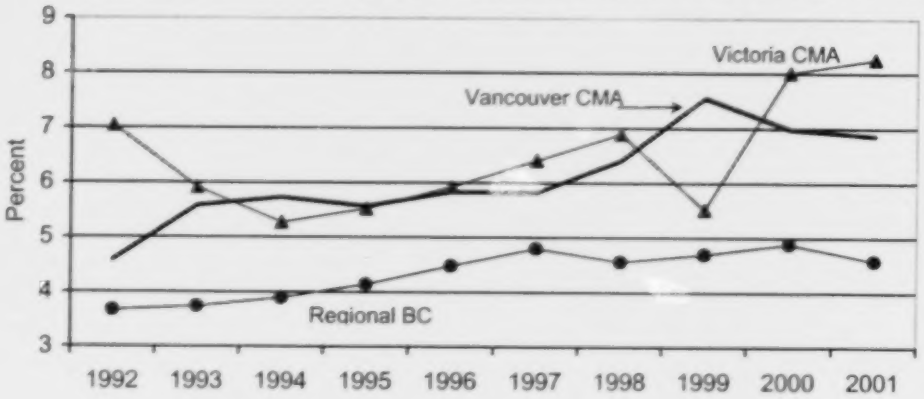
The percentage of BC's population with a university education grew by 32.4% between 1992 and 2001. Over the same period, the Vancouver CMA had growth of 33.0%, the Victoria CMA had growth of 20.1%, and Regional BC had growth of 26.9% in the proportion of the population (aged 25-64) with a university education.

The proportion of the population with a university education was similar in the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs over the period of analysis; the proportion in Regional BC was about half that of the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs. In 1992, the proportion in the Vancouver CMA was 18.8%, the proportion in the Victoria CMA was 20.8%, and was 9.5% in Regional BC. In 2001, both the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs had a proportion of 25.0%, while the proportion of the population with a university education in Regional BC was 12.1%.

Performance Indicator 9 — BC Regional Comparison

Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations

Employment in the Natural and Applied Sciences (and Related Occupations) as a Percentage of Total Employment in Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator measures the percent of an area's total employment that is comprised of scientists and engineers.

Why it's Important

The number of scientists and engineers relative to total employment is a key "proxy" for the creation of high skill jobs and the attraction and retention of people who possess the knowledge and skill sets essential to the process of innovation and the creation of high paid employment.

Analysis

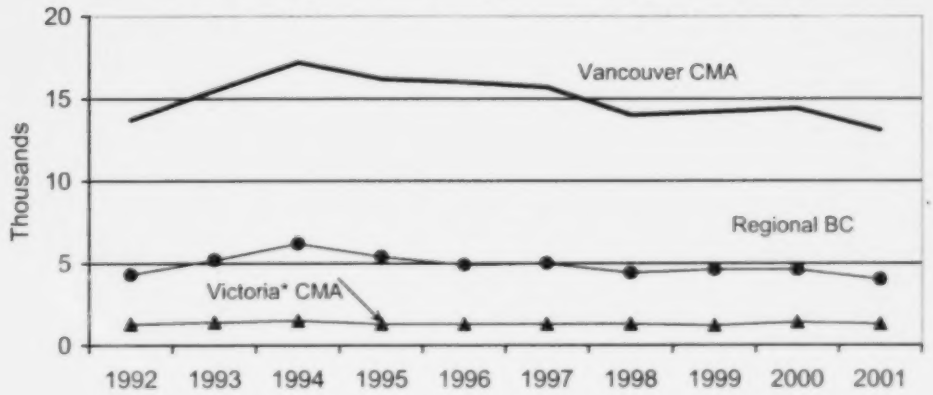
The proportion of BC's workforce active in the natural and applied sciences has increased between 1992 and 2001. The proportion in the Vancouver CMA increased by 49.5% (2.3 percentage points) from 4.59% in 1992 to 6.87% in 2001. The proportion in the Victoria CMA increased by 17.4% (1.2 percentage points) from 7.04% in 1992 to 8.26% in 2001. The proportion in Regional BC increased by 24.8% (0.9 percentage points) from 3.67% in 1992 to 4.58% in 2001.

Between 1992 and 2001, the average annual growth rate in the proportion of total employment represented by those employed in the natural and applied sciences was: 2.3% in the Vancouver CMA, 4.0% in the Victoria CMA, and 2.4% in Regional BC.

The Victoria CMA had the highest proportion of its workforce employed in natural and applied sciences in most of the years reviewed. On average, the proportion in the Victoria CMA was 7.7% higher than the proportion in the Vancouver CMA and 49.6% higher than the proportion in Regional BC.

Net New Business Formation

Net New Business Formations in Vancouver, Victoria*, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; BC Ministry of Finance and Superintendent of Bankruptcies.

Description

This indicator measures net business formation by subtracting the number of business bankruptcies from the number of businesses incorporated in a given year. "Business incorporations" include firms incorporated under the *Companies Act*, BC Ministry of Finance. Incorporations can include holding companies as well as those actively carrying on as a business. "Business bankruptcies" are attributable to liabilities incurred resulting from commercial activities.

Why it's Important

The number of net new business formations is an important measure of economic and entrepreneurial activity.

Analysis

BC had 18,374 net business incorporations in 2001, the fewest of any year in the 1992 to 2001 period. Net formations grew to a period peak of 24,952 in 1994 and declined in every year but two since then. The average annual change in the number of net business formations between 1992 and 2001 was: 0.8% in the Vancouver CMA, 1.1% in the Victoria CMA, and negative 1.9% in Regional BC.

Most of the net formations were in the Vancouver CMA. On average, between 1992 and 2001, the Vancouver CMA registered 69.4% of all net formations, the Victoria CMA registered 6.4%, and Regional BC registered the remaining 24.3%.

Note: *The Victoria CMA consists of the Capital Regional District including the Gulf Islands for this indicator.

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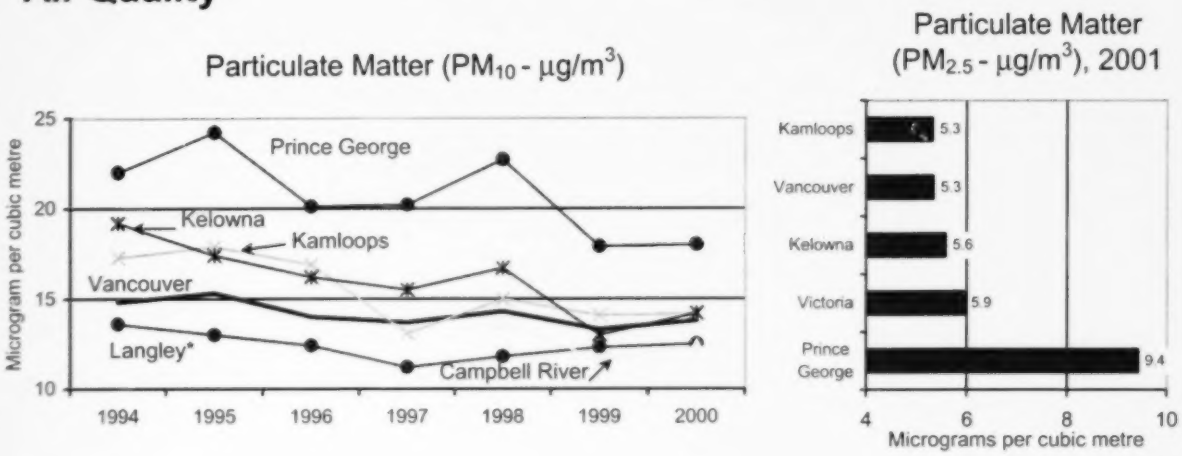
Environment, Health and Society

Regional Performance Indicators

11. Air Quality
12. Wastewater Treatment
13. Cancer Mortality
14. Life Expectancy at Birth
15. Low Birth Weight
16. Personal and Property Crime
17. Low Income Incidence

Overview: Comparison of Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC					
Environment, Health and Society					
	Most Recent Data	Metric Description	Van. CMA	Vic. CMA	RBC
11. Air Quality*	2001	Mean $PM_{2.5}$ Conc.	5.3	5.9	6.8
12. Wastewater Treatment	1999	% Pop. Served	57.4	N/A	46.3
13. Cancer Mortality	2001	Mort. Rate per 1,000	4.5	6.0	4.9
14. Life Expectancy at Birth	2001	Years	81.6	80.6	79.8
15. Low Birth Weight	2001	per 1,000 Live Births	50.0	48.3	48.8
16. Personal and Property Crime	2001	per 100 Pop.	9.3	6.6	6.7
17. Low Income Incidence	2000	% of Families	19.6	16.7	12.0
Note: *The RBC value is the average of readings from Kamloops, Kelowna, and Prince George.					

Air Quality



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

Description

Air quality is measured by the amount of fine particulate matter in the air. Fine particulates include dust, dirt, liquid droplets and smoke. Many air quality monitors have been measuring fine particulates under 10 microns (PM_{10}), but recent findings have shown that particulates 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$), pose the greatest health risk. There is a national initiative underway to switch to monitoring $PM_{2.5}$. As such, the best available data for 1994 through 2000 is PM_{10} while the best data for 2001 and subsequent years is $PM_{2.5}$. Factories, cars, power plants, construction activity, and numerous other sources emit fine particulates.

Why it's Important

Air quality has direct effects on human health. Fine particulates may affect breathing, aggravate respiratory and cardiovascular disease, alter the body's defense systems and damage lung tissue. Both premature mortality and emergency hospital visits may increase during times of high concentrations of fine particulates.

Analysis

Concentrations of particulate matter (PM_{10} or $PM_{2.5}$) are generally higher in communities outside of the Greater Vancouver Regional District and Lower Fraser Valley. Of the seven major centres in the above PM_{10} chart, Campbell River had the lowest particulate matter concentrations in 2000, at 12.4 μ g/m^3. Langley was next at 12.5 μ g/m^3, followed by Vancouver at 13.8 μ g/m^3, Kamloops and Kelowna at 14.2 μ g/m^3, and Prince George at 18.0 μ g/m^3 of fine partiuculates.

Air quality, as measured by the annual mean concentration of PM_{10} particulates, improved in Vancouver, Langley, Kamloops, Kelowna, and Prince George between 1994 and 2000 by at least 6.8% (Vancouver) and by as much as 26.1% (Kelowna). Campbell River's air quality increased by 10.0% between 1998 and 2000.

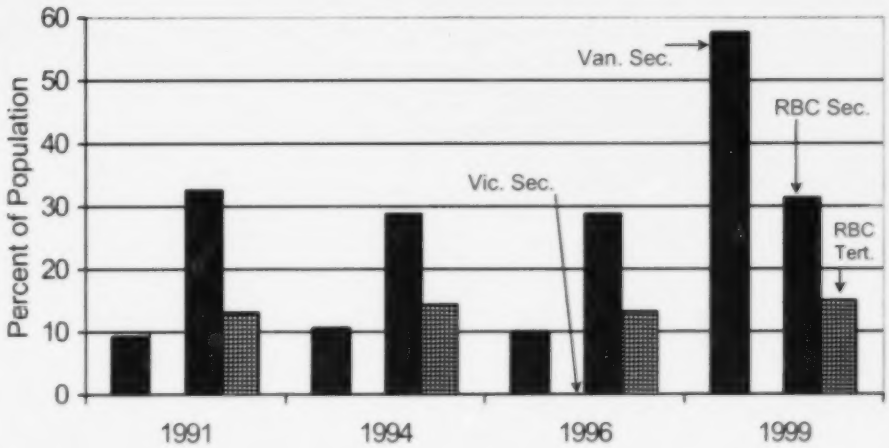
Kamloops had the lowest concentrations of particulates ($PM_{2.5}$) in 2001 at 5.3 μ g/m^3. Vancouver's concentration was slightly higher but rounded out to 5.3 μ g/m^3 as well. Of the other cities that had data, Kelowna and Victoria were close at 5.6 μ g/m^3 and 5.9 μ g/m^3, respectively, and Prince George had the highest concentration of particulate matter at 9.4 μ g/m^3.

Note: *1995 and 1998 data for Langley are interpolated.

Performance Indicator 12 — BC Regional Comparison

Wastewater Treatment

Service by Secondary or Tertiary Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; Environment Canada; BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

Description

This indicator measures the percent of the population in BC that is served by sewers that have secondary or tertiary wastewater treatment facilities. Data is available for Vancouver (the Greater Vancouver Regional District and the Lower Fraser Valley), Victoria and Regional BC.

Wastewater is treated in four steps: preliminary and primary treatments filter solid material, secondary treatment removes greater suspended material, and tertiary treatment aims to remove substances such as contaminants.

Why it's Important

Wastewater consists of human waste and harmful substances such as motor oil, pesticide residue, paint thinner, pharmaceuticals and solvents that threaten human health and ecological balance. Municipal wastewater is seen as one of the largest sources of pollution in Canadian waters.

Analysis

In 1991, only 9.1% of Vancouver's population was served by secondary wastewater treatment facilities. By 1999, this had improved to 57.4%. None of Vancouver's wastewater is treated by tertiary facilities.

Victoria has no secondary or tertiary wastewater treatment.

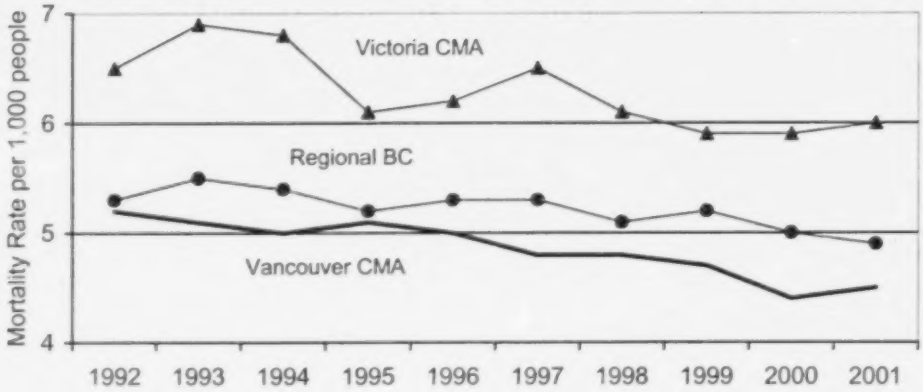
In 1991, 32.6% of Regional BC's population was served by secondary wastewater treatment facilities and 13.1% was served by tertiary treatment facilities. Coverage in Regional BC changed little between 1991 and 1999. In 1999, 31.3% of Regional BC's population was served by secondary wastewater treatment facilities and 15.0% was served by tertiary treatment facilities.

Note: Wastewater treatment data is not available for every year as it is based on a survey conducted every three years by Environment Canada; 2002 data should be available in 2003.

Performance Indicator 13 — BC Regional Comparison

Cancer Mortality

Cancer Mortality Rate for the Over 44 Population for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; BC Vital Statistics Agency.

Description

Cancer is a disease in which abnormal cells form in human organs or tissue and grow to form a tumour. Two-thirds of all cancers are caused by a person's lifestyle, such as diet, physical activity, drinking and smoking habits. This indicator is a proxy for an area's propensity to make healthy lifestyle choices. Fully 95% of cancer deaths occur after the age of 45 years. The indicator is the total number of cancer deaths per 1,000 people for those aged 45 years and older.

Why it's Important

Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in Canada. Health Canada estimates that there were as many as 65,300 cancer deaths in 2001. Approximately 40% of men and 35% of women will develop cancer. Fully 25% of men and 20% of women will die of cancer. Tobacco use is the leading cause of cancer deaths (30%) and is responsible for approximately 85% of lung cancer cases.

Analysis

Cancer mortality rates fell in the Vancouver CMA by 13.1% between 1992 and 2001, from 5.2 to 4.5 deaths per 1,000 people aged 45 years and older. Similarly, rates fell by 7.0% in the Victoria CMA and by 8.1% in Regional BC over this time period. Of the ten year-over-year changes analysed, the Vancouver CMA's rate increased twice, the rate in Regional BC increased three times, and the cancer mortality rate in the Victoria CMA increased five times.

On average, over the period 1992 through 2001, the cancer mortality rate in the Victoria CMA was 29.1% higher than the rate in the Vancouver CMA and 20.2% higher than the rate in Regional BC.

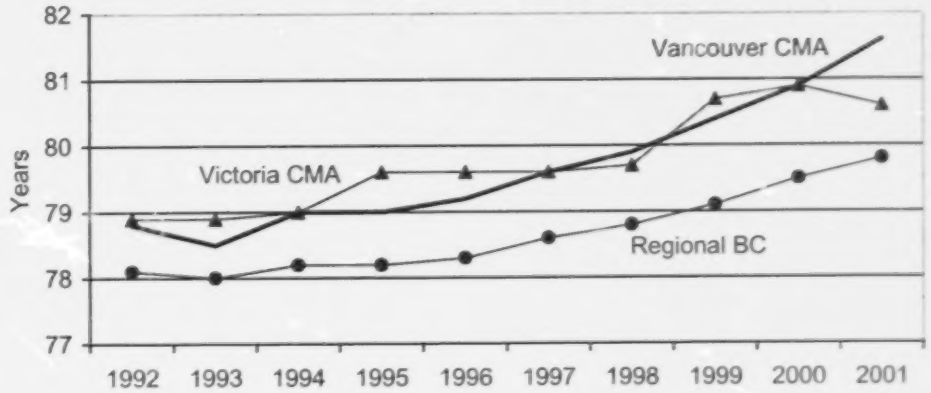
In 1997, lung cancer was the leading cause of cancer related mortality for both men and women. Prostate and colorectal cancers are the next highest causes of cancer related death in men, while breast and colorectal cancers are the next highest causes of cancer related deaths in women.*

Note: *BC Cancer Mortality Trends 1977 - 1997, BC Cancer Agency, March 1999.

Performance Indicator 14 — BC Regional Comparison

Life Expectancy at Birth

Life Expectancy at Birth for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; BC Vital Statistics Agency.

Description

Life expectancy at birth is the average number of years that a child is expected to live based on the mortality rates prevailing at the child's birth. Factors affecting life expectancy include access to health care, diet, environment, wealth and economic development.

Why it's Important

This is a key indicator measuring the overall health of citizens in a jurisdiction. An increasing life expectancy at birth indicates that the overall health status of the population is improving while a decreasing life expectancy indicates a general deterioration in a population's health status.

Analysis

Life expectancy at birth in the Vancouver CMA increased from 78.8 years in 1992 to 81.6 years in 2001, a 3.6% improvement. Life expectancy at birth in the Victoria CMA increased from 78.9 years in 1992 to 80.6 years in 2001, a 2.2% improvement. Life expectancy at birth in Regional BC increased from 78.1 years in 1992 to 79.8 years in 2001, a 2.2% improvement. Life expectancy at birth in BC increased from 78.5 years in 1992 to 80.7 years in 2001, a 2.9% improvement.

On average, life expectancy at birth increased by 4 months per year in the Vancouver CMA between 1992 and 2001. Similarly, it increased on average, by 2½ months per year in the Victoria CMA, by 3 months a year in Regional BC, and by 3½ months a year in BC as a whole.

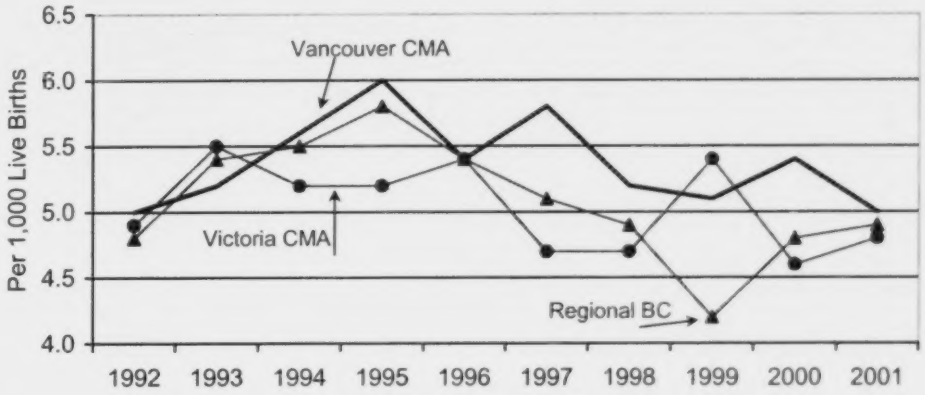
Year-to-year decreases in life expectancy at birth are rare. Of the ten year-to-year changes in the 1992 through 2001 period, there was one decrease in the Vancouver CMA, Regional BC, and BC as a whole while there were three in the Victoria CMA. The largest of these decreases was a five month decline in Victoria between 2000 and 2001.

Note: BC regional life expectancy data provided by the BC Vital Statistics Agency is more current than provincial or national data provided by Statistics Canada.

Performance Indicator 15 BC Regional Comparison

Low Birth Weight

Low Birth Weight for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; BC Vital Statistics Agency.

Description
Newborns weighing less than 2,500 grams are considered to be low birth weight infants. This indicator presents the ratio of low weight births (birth weight less than 2,500 grams) to total live births. Factors that contribute to low birth weight are socio-economic status, social support, stress and personal habits. This indicator serves as a proxy for overall social condition.

Why it's Important
Low birth weight newborns have a substantially higher rate of post-birth illness and death. Long-term health problems, increased hospitalization rates and disabilities are also associated with low birth weight.

Analysis
In 2001, 0.50% of live births had low birth weight in the Vancouver CMA, 0.48% had low birth weight in the Victoria CMA, and 0.49% of births had birth weight below 2,500 grams (the low weight threshold) in Regional BC.

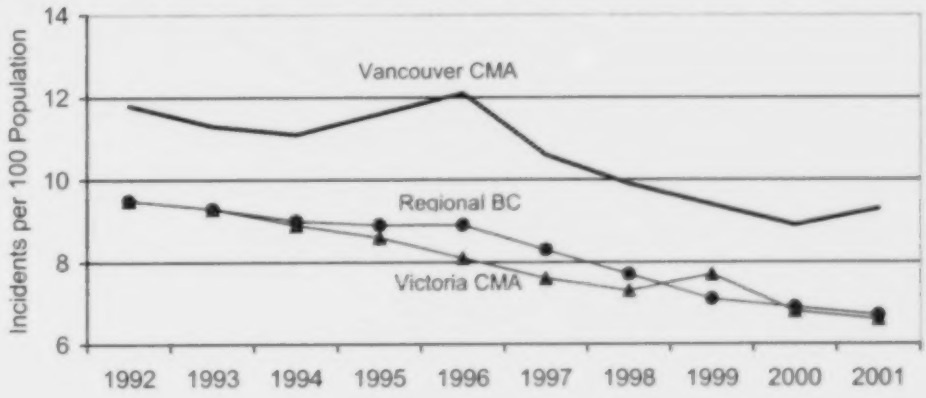
Although the ratio of low birth weight to total live births increased in the 1990s in the Vancouver CMA, the Victoria CMA, and Regional BC, by 2001 it was back down to, or below, its 1992 level in the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs and down from the 1995 peak in Regional BC.

The low birth weight ratio has been fairly volatile in all three regions with the difference from minimum to maximum values ranging from 20.2% in the Victoria CMA to 37.3% in Regional BC. That said, the average values for the three regions for the period 1992 through 2001 are quite close. The smallest difference being 0.1% between Regional BC and the Victoria CMA and the largest difference being 6.6% between the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs.

Performance Indicator 16 BC Regional Comparison

Personal and Property Crime

Personal and Property Crime Incidents for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Description

Personal and property crime rates are the number of reported incidents, expressed as a rate per 100 population. Personal crime includes those offences in the Criminal Code that deal with the application or threat of application of force to a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual-assault, robbery and abduction. Property crime includes incidents involving unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the threat or use of violence e.g. theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods.

Why it's Important

The crime rate is both a reflection of community safety and security and an indicator of other social and economic problems. It can reflect lack of opportunities, inadequate education or social dysfunction. Crime is very costly to society, from both individual and community perspectives

Analysis

In 2001, the Vancouver CMA experienced 9.3 crime incidents for every 100 residents. This was significantly higher than Regional BC which had 6.7 crimes per 100 residents, or the Victoria CMA with 6.6 incidents per 100 residents. On average, between 1992 and 2001, crime rates in the Vancouver CMA were 31.5% higher than in the Victoria CMA and 28.5% higher than in Regional BC.

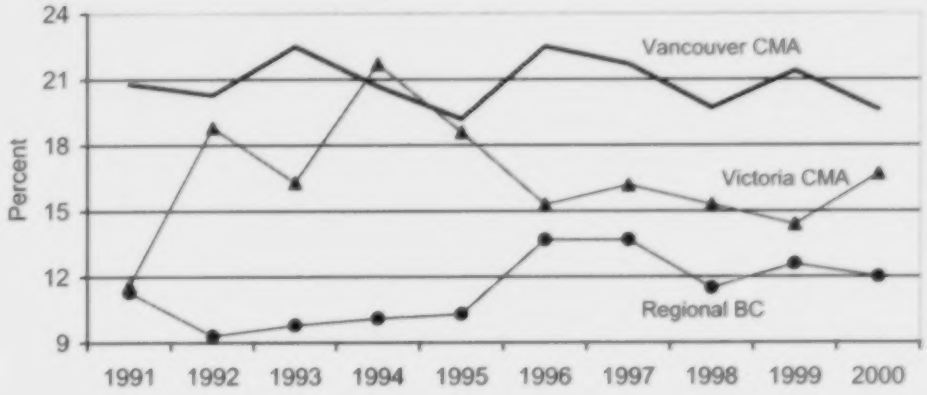
Crime rates dropped in every year between 1992 and 2001 in Regional BC. Except for between 1998 and 1999 they also fell in the Victoria CMA. In general, they also dropped in the Vancouver CMA over this time period although they increased between 1994 and 1996 and between 2000 and 2001. Overall, between 1992 and 2001, crime rates fell by 30.5% in the Victoria CMA, by 29.6% in Regional BC, and by 21.1% in the Vancouver CMA.

Between 2000 and 2001, crime fell by 2.1% in the Victoria CMA and by 2.5% in Regional BC but increased by 4.6% in the Vancouver CMA.

Performance Indicator 17 — BC Regional Comparison

Low Income Incidence

Families and Unattached Individuals with Income Below the After-Tax Low Income Cut-Off* for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description**

This measure is the ratio of families and unattached individuals with low incomes (after-tax) to the total population of families and unattached individuals.

Why it's Important

There are a number of negative outcomes for families experiencing low incomes. People with low income may experience more physical and mental health problems, rely more on charity, attain lower levels of education, or have higher secondary school drop out rates.

Analysis

The Vancouver CMA had the highest low income incidence in 2000 with a rate of 19.6%. This compares to the Victoria CMA at 16.7% and Regional BC at 12.0%. The low income ratio was highest in the Vancouver CMA for most years reviewed.

In 2000, the percentage of Vancouver families and unattached individuals below the after-tax Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) was 5.8% (1.2 percentage points) lower than it was in 1991. There were 44.0% (5.1 percentage points) more people below LICO in Victoria in 2000 than in 1991. The 2000 ratio in Regional BC was 6.4% (0.7 percentage points) higher than in 1991 while the ratio for all of BC was 1.2% (0.2 percentage points) higher in 2000 than in 1991.

In 2000, the low income ratio in the Vancouver CMA was 6.0% (1.2 percentage points) lower than the city's 10 year average. The BC ratio was 1.7% (0.3 percentage points) lower than its 10 year average and the ratios in the Victoria CMA and Regional BC were higher by 1.3% (0.2 percentage points) and 5.1% (0.6 percentage points), respectively.

Notes: *The data presented above does not match the data presented in the 2001 Report due to data revisions by Statistics Canada. The revisions are due to "revised population estimates and improved weighting procedures."

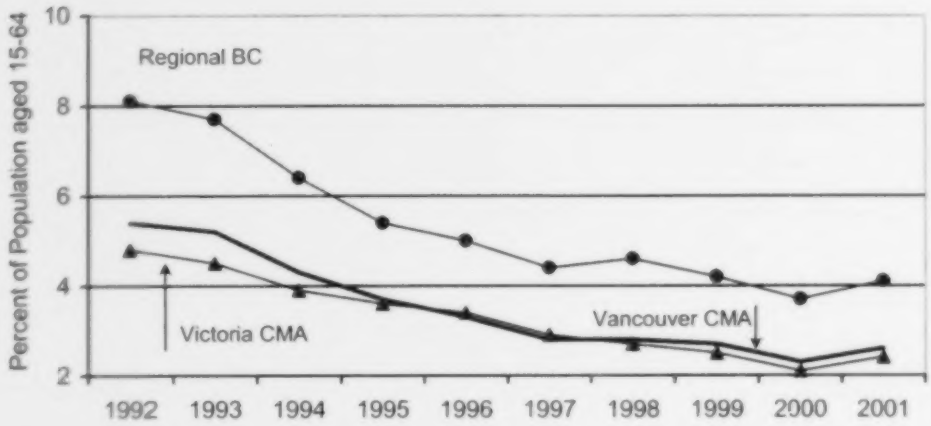
**For further discussion of the LICO, please see the Supplemental Information box on page 68.

Performance Indicator 17 Supplemental Information: BC Regional Comparison

NEW

Employment Insurance Recipients

Employment Insurance Recipients for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator tracks the number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries as a percent of the population aged 15-64. Employment Insurance (EI) helps unemployed Canadians between jobs by providing temporary financial assistance while they look for work, upgrade their skills, are pregnant, care for a newborn (or adopted child), or are sick.

Why it's Important

The proportion of the labour force not able to find employment is an important indicator of the economic health of a jurisdiction. When an economy is growing strongly, new jobs are created and, unless there are many people who wanted to work but had dropped out of the labour force, the unemployment rate should fall and there should be fewer people collecting Employment Insurance benefits.

Analysis

The proportion of the population (aged 15-64) receiving EI benefits is higher in Regional BC than in the Vancouver or Victoria CMAs. On average, between 1992 and 2001, the ratio is 54.4% higher in Regional BC than in the Vancouver CMA. More than half of all EI recipients in BC are outside of the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs. On average, between 1992 and 2001, 42.1% of all BC recipients were in the Vancouver CMA, 6.2% were in the Victoria CMA, and 51.6% were in Regional BC.

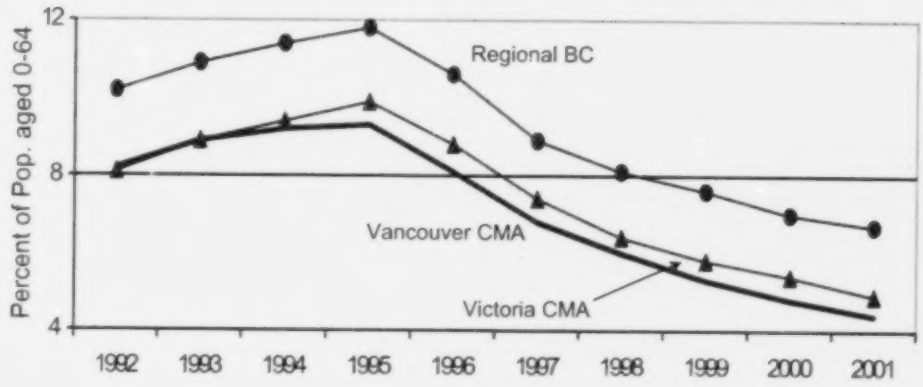
The number of BC EI beneficiaries peaked at 138,597 in 1992. In 1992: there were 8,681 EI beneficiaries in the Victoria CMA (4.8% of the population aged 15-64), 59,199 beneficiaries in the Vancouver CMA (5.4% of the population aged 15-64), and 70,717 in Regional BC (8.1% of the population aged 15-64). Unemployment Insurance was changed to Employment Insurance on July 1st, 1996. The program changed along with the name – eligibility for the program was altered from 'weeks-based' to 'hours-based' and eligibility requirements were tightened.

NEW

Performance Indicator 17 Supplemental Information: BC Regional Comparison

Income Assistance Recipients

Income Assistance Recipients for Vancouver, Victoria, and Regional BC



Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada.

Description

This indicator tracks the number of Income Assistance beneficiaries as a percent of the population aged 0-64. The Income Assistance (IA) program in BC provides essential income support, employment and training support, and other benefits to a wide range of people who need temporary assistance and meet eligibility requirements under the *BC Benefits (Income Assistance) Act*. The program is strictly limited to those in need. Eligibility is determined by stringent income and asset testing.

Why it's Important

The proportion of the population collecting income assistance benefits (commonly referred to as welfare) is an important indicator of the economic health of a jurisdiction and may also indicate problems in the incentive structure of the income assistance programs available within a jurisdiction.

Analysis

The general pattern of large increases in the income assistance recipients-to-population ratio in the early 1990s followed by even larger decreases in the ratio in the mid-to-late 1990s displayed in the above chart was seen all across the country.

The proportion of the population (aged 0-64) collecting Income Assistance (IA) benefits has followed similar patterns in the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs and in Regional BC. The proportion peaked in 1995 at 9.3% in the Vancouver CMA, 9.9% in the Victoria CMA, and 11.8% in Regional BC. Since 1995, the number of beneficiaries as a percent of the population (aged 0-64) has fallen by 53.1% in the Vancouver CMA, 50.4% in the Victoria CMA, and 43.5% in Regional BC. The proportion of the population collecting income assistance has consistently been higher in Regional BC than in the Vancouver or Victoria CMAs.

V. BC Progress Board Advisory Work

Advisory Work 2002

During 2002, the Progress Board established two expert panels to provide the Board with advice related to our regional economies and education, skills, training and technology transfer. A snapshot of the two reports is provided below. Full reports are available at www.bcprogressboard.com

"Restoring British Columbia's Economic Heartland" – Report of the Project 250: Regional Economies Expert Panel

In its initial benchmarking report, the Progress Board set targets to restore BC to an economic leadership position within Canada by 2010. These targets were set at a challenging time in the province's history. While GDP, productivity, corporate profits and personal income have all declined in relative terms across the province, Region 250 has been hit harder than the province's urban areas – areas that generally kept pace with average annual economic growth rates for Canada during the 1990s.

This Panel's report details a three-pronged approach to ensuring that challenges currently facing Region 250 are met. First, the wealth generating capacity of the land base, currently hampered by regulatory delays, tenure and access uncertainty, unresolved Aboriginal land claims, and poor international market conditions must be restored. Second, renewal will require looking for new ways of generating more value from the province's resources by systematically identifying and nurturing BC's leading innovators and emerging industry clusters, while communicating BC's advantages and the durability of the province's new investment climate to other provinces and the world. Third, government must maintain and improve supportive transportation, communications and education infrastructure that – first and foremost – enhance the prospects for spurring economic growth.

"Learning to Win"– Report of the Education, Skills, Training and Technology Transfer Expert Panel

At the direction of the BC Progress Board, the Panel on Education, Skills, Training and Technology Transfer has addressed the mandate of identifying critical linkages between education, skills, training and technology transfer and the prospect for improved economic and social prosperity in British Columbia. The Panel considered relevant "facts of life" in our province's current demographic, economic/employment and research/innovation contexts. It then considered existing strengths and challenges facing the province's education, skills, training and research institutions. The report provides ten strategic recommendations to improve access and performance.

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Appendices

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A. Board Members, Staff, and Advisory Group Members

Board Members and Staff

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President & CEO
Canfor Corporation

Members:

Mr. Lawrence Bates
President & CEO
Sun-Rype Products Ltd.

Mr. Alex A. Campbell
President
Thrifty Foods

Mr. Pat Corbett
Owner/ President
The Hills Health Ranch

Mr. Herman Driediger
CEO
Eze Rent-it Centre Ltd.

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Former President & Chief Operating Officer
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Duke Energy Gas Transmission - Canada

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University of British Columbia

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Ferax Capital Corporation

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University of British Columbia

Dr. Rick Harris
Telus Professor of Economics
Simon Fraser University

Mr. Helmut Pastrick
Chief Economist
Credit Union Central of British Columbia

B. Summary Progress Measurement Tables

Note on Core Measures Table: An arithmetic average and "overall indicative rank" are included for summary comparison purposes only. Each core target and performance indicator should be viewed independently from one another with more emphasis being placed on the six core target measures for comparing British Columbia's overall performance.

Core Measures: Summary Overview of BC and the Other Provinces

	Economic Growth: Growth of Real GDP per Capita	Standard of Living: Real Pers. Disposable Income per Capita	Jobs: Employment Rate	Real Average Hourly Wage	Productivity	Total Exports per Capita	Tax Payer Supported Debt	Per Capita Tax Burden	Top Marginal Tax Rate	Provincial Surplus/(Deficit)	Net Inter-Provincial Migration	Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation	Secondary School Graduates	University Completion	R&D as a % of GDP	Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations	Arithmetic Average	Economy, Innovation and Education Overall Rank	Environmental Quality	Health Outcomes	Social Condition	Air Quality	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Wastewater Treatment	Protected Areas	Cancer Mortality	Low Birth Weight	Personal and Property Crime	Arithmetic Average	Environment, Health and Society Overall Rank
Most Recent Data Available																														
Year	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001/02	2001/02	2002	2001/02	2001/02	2001	2000	2001	1999	2001			n/a	1998	2000	2001	2000	1998	2002	1998	1998	2001		
BC	**10**	**3**	**6**	**1**	**5**	**7**	**2**	**6**	**2**	**10**	**7**	**5**	**9**	**4**	**7**	**4**	**5.5**	**4**	**1**	**1**	**9**	**3**	**3**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**10**	**3.5**	**1**
AB	6	1	1	3	1	2	1	5	1	1	1	1	10	2	8	2	2.9	1	4	3	5	5	10	2	2	2	10	7	5.0	3
SK	9	8	3	6	4	3	4	8	3	5	10	4	5	8	5	10	5.9	6	5	5	3	6	9	1	4	3	5	9	5.0	3
MB	3	4	2	8	6	5	3	7	4	3	8	9	8	6	4	9	5.6	5	3	9	8	4	6	3	5	6	4	8	5.6	6
ON	7	2	4	2	2	1	5	9	5	4	3	7	6	1	2	1	3.8	2	2	2	2	n/a	5	4	3	4	9	5	4.0	2
QC	5	5	7	4	3	6	8	10	9	5	4	10	3	3	1	3	5.4	3	6	5	10	8	1	7	7	9	8	4	6.5	9
NB	4	7	9	9	8	4	7	3	6	2	5	8	1	9	9	7	6.1	7	10	7	4	7	8	6	10	8	7	3	7.0	10
NS	1	6	8	7	9	9	10	4	7	7	6	3	7	5	3	6	6.1	7	6	4	6	**2**	7	8	6	10	3	6	5.8	8
PE	8	9	5	10	10	8	6	2	8	8	2	6	2	7	10	8	6.8	9	9	7	1	n/a	2	9	9	5	6	2	5.6	5
NF	2	10	10	5	7	10	9	1	10	9	9	2	4	10	6	5	6.8	9	6	10	7	**1**	4	10	8	7	2	1	5.6	6
One Year Progress Check																														
Year	n/a	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001/02	2001/02	2002	2001/02	2001/02	2001	2000	2001	1999	2001			n/a	1998	2000	n/a	2000	n/a	n/a	1998	1998	2001		
BC	**n/a**	**8**	**9**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**10**	**4**	**1**	**9**	**6**	**1**	**7**	**10**	**4**	**8**	**6.1**	**9**	**n/a**	**3**	**8**	**n/a**	**4**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**1**	**3**	**7**	**4.3**	**3**
AB	n/a	1	2	7	8	8	1	6	4	10	2	2	2	2	10	6	4.7	3	n/a	8	5	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	2	6	6	5.5	5
SK	n/a	5	10	10	6	5	8	1	2	3	4	8	1	9	2	3	5.1	4	n/a	9	9	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	9	8	9	7.7	10
MB	n/a	7	6	8	4	2	2	2	4	1	3	5	3	6	1	9	4.2	1	n/a	9	7	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	8	5	10	7.3	8
ON	n/a	10	8	5	7	9	4	5	4	7	10	4	8	8	7	7	6.9	10	n/a	6	3	n/a	7	n/a	n/a	6	7	8	6.2	6
QC	n/a	3	5	3	1	7	5	3	3	4	5	7	9	7	5	10	5.1	4	n/a	7	6	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	5	4	2	4.5	4
NB	n/a	4	7	9	5	1	3	9	4	5	8	10	6	5	8	5	5.9	8	n/a	5	10	n/a	9	n/a	n/a	7	9	4	7.3	8
NS	n/a	6	4	4	3	3	6	10	4	8	7	6	10	4	6	4	5.7	7	n/a	2	4	n/a	8	n/a	n/a	3	2	3	3.7	2
PE	n/a	9	3	6	9	4	7	8	4	2	1	3	4	1	3	1	4.3	2	n/a	1	1	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	10	10	5	6.2	6
NF	n/a	2	1	1	10	6	9	7	4	6	9	9	5	3	9	2	5.5	6	n/a	4	2	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	4	1	1	2.2	1
Period Progress Check																														
Period	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992 - 2001	1992/93 - 2001/02	1992/93 - 2001/02	1993 - 2002	1992/93 - 2001/02	1992/93 - 2001/02	1992 - 2001	1991 - 2000	1992 - 2001	1991 - 1999	1992 - 2001			n/a	1991 - 1998	1991 - 2000	n/a	1991 - 2000	1991 - 1998	n/a	1991 - 1998	1991 - 1998	1992 - 2001		
BC	**10**	**10**	**10**	**8**	**8**	**10**	**8**	**1**	**3**	**9**	**7**	**9**	**3**	**5**	**7**	**7**	**7.2**	**10**	**n/a**	**3**	**8**	**n/a**	**3**	**1**	**n/a**	**2**	**3**	**6**	**3.7**	**1**
AB	3	2	6	5	5	9	1	2	1	1	9	1	7	10	9	9	5.0	2	n/a	7	3	n/a	8	8	n/a	4	6	1	5.3	5
SK	8	7	9	10	2	7	2	9	2	2	4	6	10	9	4	4	5.9	7	n/a	9	1	n/a	10	2	n/a	8	7	10	6.7	9
MB	9	8	3	9	6	5	3	8	4	10	5	4	9	7	5	6	6.3	8	n/a	10	2	n/a	4	7	n/a	9	5	9	6.6	8
ON	6	9	8	6	4	6	7	3	6	3	2	8	4	6	3	3	5.3	5	n/a	5	5	n/a	2	6	n/a	3	8	2	4.4	3
QC	4	4	4	7	3	4	9	5	9	5	6	10	1	2	1	10	5.3	5	n/a	6	4	n/a	1	3	n/a	5	4	3	3.7	1
NB	5	1	2	4	9	3	6	6	5	4	1	7	8	3	10	8	5.1	4	n/a	8	6	n/a	9	10	n/a	10	9	8	8.6	10
NS	7	5	7	3	7	8	5	7	8	7	10	2	6	8	6	5	6.3	8	n/a	1	10	n/a	7	4	n/a	6	1	5	4.9	4
PE	2	6	1	2	10	2	10	10	7	8	8	5	5	1	2	1	5.0	2	n/a	2	9	n/a	5	5	n/a	1	10	7	5.6	6
NF	1	3	5	1	1	1	4	4	10	6	3	3	2	4	8	2	3.6	1	n/a	4	7	n/a	6	9	n/a	7	2	4	5.6	6

Summary Overview of BC's Rank Relative to Selected Provinces and States (BC, AB, ON, QC, WA, OR, CA)

		Supplemental Performance Indicator	Period	BC's Rank by Province/State (most recent data available)	One Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
Economy, Innovation and Education		Real GDP per Capita	1992 - 2000	5 (6)	n/a	7 (7)
		Real Personal Disposable Income per Capita	1992 - 2001	6 (6)	3 (4)	7 (7)
		Employment Rate	1992 - 2001	6 (6)	5 (5)	7 (7)
		Real Average Hourly Wage	1992 - 2001	7 (6)	4 (7)	1 (3)
		Hourly Labour Productivity	1991 - 2000	7 (7)	6 (6)	7 (7)
		Unit Labour Costs	1992 - 2000	7 (7)	5 (5)	7 (7)
		Per Capita Tax Burden	1991/92 - 1998/99	5 (n/a)	1 (n/a)	2 (n/a)
		Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate	1993 - 2002	3 (3)	1 (1)	2 (2)
		Net Inter-Provincial (Inter-State) Migration	1992 - 2001	6 (6)	6 (7)	6 (6)
		R&D as a % of GDP	1991 - 1999	6 (7)	1 (3)	5 (7)
Environment, Health and Society		Air Quality	2001	1 (1)	n/a	n/a
		Low Birth Weight Rate	1993 - 1999	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (4)
		Personal and Property Crime	1992 - 2001	7 (7)	3 (2)	5 (5)
British Columbia's Prior Year's Ranks are in Brackets						

C. Methodology

Core Targets and Performance Indicators: Benchmarking Framework

To implement the benchmarking framework that forms the core of this report it is necessary to create statistical measures of the goals and their determinants. The goals are defined in terms of **core target indicators**, and the determinants of these core targets are termed **performance indicators**. Changes in the latter have implications for trends in the core target indicators.

Over the course of the fall of 2001, BC Progress Board staff engaged in an iterative process with the Board itself and its Economic Advisory Group (see Appendix A) to arrive at an array of suitable core target and performance indicators. For measures of environment, health and society, staff consulted with knowledgeable government officials. Following feedback on the 2001 report, the Progress Board has made a few adjustments (detailed on pages 15 and 16). To the extent possible, the selection of core target and performance indicators was conducted in accordance with the following criteria:

- The measures must provide timely cross-jurisdictional comparisons;
- The measures must represent an unbiased reporting of the condition (that is, they should be based on neutral and credible third party information);
- The measures should be consistent through time and across jurisdictions; and,
- Generally, the measures must not be collinear with other variables (that is, they should not simply replicate information presented in another measure).

An additional consideration governing the selection of measures for inclusion in the benchmarking exercise continues to be the Board's desire to keep the number of indicators small enough to make the exercise manageable and relatively easy to understand. The set of measures comprised of "*core targets*" and "*performance indicators*" that formed the body of the initial benchmarking report will be tracked from year to year.

To provide an indication of how BC compares with other jurisdictions as well as vis-à-vis its own past performance, we have organized the indicators in this report into three ***"Progress Measures"***:

- ***Rank by Province*** – assesses BC's standing or performance relative to other jurisdictions in the most recent year for which data is available for the indicator. Each jurisdiction is given an ordinal ranking from "best" to "worst" with 1 signifying the best;
- ***One Year Progress Check*** – provides a rank based on progress (or rate of change) recorded during the most recent year for which data is available relative to the previous year. Each jurisdiction is again given an ordinal ranking from "best" to "worst"; and,

- ***Period Progress Rank*** – provides a rank based on progress experienced in each jurisdiction over a longer time period (the average annual rate of progress over the period). Each jurisdiction is again ranked from "best" to "worst" using an ordinal rank with 1 for the best progress.

Supplemental US Comparisons: Benchmarking Framework

To provide an indication of how BC compares with US jurisdictions, the report contains supplemental information on seven jurisdictions: BC, Alberta, Quebec, Ontario, Washington, Oregon and California. Here too, the data is organized around three ***Progress Measures***:

- ***Rank by Jurisdiction*** – assesses BC's performance relative to other jurisdictions in the most recent year for which data is available for the indicator. Each jurisdiction is given an ordinal ranking from "best" to "worst" with 1 signifying the best among the seven jurisdictions reviewed in this part of the report;

- ***One Year Progress Check*** – provides a rank based on progress (or the rate of change) experienced in the most recent year for which data is available relative to the previous year. Each jurisdiction is again given an ordinal ranking from "best" to "worst"; and,

- ***Period Progress Rank*** – provides a rank based on progress experienced in each jurisdiction over a longer time period (the average annual rate of progress over the period). Each jurisdiction is again ranked from "best" to "worst" using an ordinal rank with 1 for the best progress.

One of the difficulties with comparing performance between Canada and the United States is that economic activity is measured in the two countries' respective national currencies. To compare economic performance it is necessary to convert the data into a common currency – whether US or Canadian dollars.

Two measures of the exchange rate are often employed to convert indicators into a common currency. The first is the actual market exchange rate. The second involves using what is known as a Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) exchange rate. Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) are the rates of currency conversion that eliminate the differences in price levels between countries. Per capita volume indices based on PPP converted data reflect only differences in the volume of goods and services produced.

Statistics Canada's Switch to the Fisher Index Formula For the Calculation of Real Expenditure-Based GDP

The following is from the Statistics Canada website; it has been edited for brevity.

In May 2001, the quarterly Income and Expenditure Accounts adopted the Fisher index formula, chained quarterly, as the official measure of real expenditure-based Gross Domestic Product. There are two reasons for the adoption of this particular formula: it produces the most accurate measure of quarter to quarter growth in GDP and its components; and, the change brings the Canadian measure in line with the US quarterly Income and Product Accounts which also use the chain Fisher formula to measure real GDP.

Why change?

Previously, the real expenditure-based GDP estimate was calculated using a Laspeyres formula chained periodically. The Laspeyres formula is fixed-weighted using weights based on some fixed point in the past. This formula basically adds up the volume changes in GDP by using the price levels of the base year as the weights. It is chained by changing the base year periodically. The base years were 1961, 1971, 1981, 1986 and 1992. Each time span is added up in its own base year prices and then the spans are linked together by measuring each base year on two price levels (old base and new base) and using the ratio of the two to link them together. Under the old method, the Canadian accounts were due to be rebased to 1997 price levels in May 2001.

With the rapid expansion of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industries in Canada, the Laspeyres volume measure produced significantly biased results. Growth was overestimated because prices of equipment and services related to this fast growing sector of the economy declined dramatically since the base year 1992, as a result of rapid technological change. The Laspeyres index measures changes in GDP by adding up the quantities produced of these commodities using 1992 price levels as weights. This is the equivalent of giving these commodities roughly four times the weight they would have at 2000 price levels. This over-weighting of the Laspeyres index, called "substitution bias", is why the Laspeyres formula produces a growth rate of GDP that is at the upper limit of possible measures. It does not compensate for substitution to lower priced commodities.

The degree of the bias depends on the amount of price dispersion. If, for example, all prices are rising at about the same rate as was the case for the period from the mid seventies to the early eighties, the bias is minimal. But, if technological change results in prices of one sector of the economy falling relative to other prices, as is the case from the mid eighties until 2000, the bias becomes significant.

Changing the index formula to a Paasche index where current prices would always be used as a weight base, was not a solution. This results in a bias opposite to that of the Laspeyres, with a tendency to understate growth in GDP as ICT prices fall monotonically. Growth in the base year would be measured using current prices, which is as faulty

as the reverse. So with a Laspeyres index producing an upper bound to measurement of economic growth and a Paasche index producing the lower bound, the Fisher, which is the geometric average of the two, follows a more stable middle path. Therefore, real GDP is now calculated using the Fisher formula, which is the middle ground between the Laspeyres and the Paasche, rebased each quarter to minimize the bias introduced by dispersion.

For the time period 1981 to 2000, in all but a handful of exceptional quarters, the differences between the Paasche, Fisher and Laspeyres indexes in any individual quarter are fairly small. As well, in a chain index, the differences between using the prior weights, current weights or a combination of the two are greatly reduced. This is because the chain index approximates an "ideal index" for which weights change continuously.

Are there any drawbacks?

An important consequence of using chain indexes is that the associated volume measures are not additive. That is, the sum of the chained values for each component of an aggregate does not equal the chained value of the aggregate. The values associated with the Laspeyres volume index are additive from the base year forward but not for the years prior to the base year which were calculated on other weight bases and chained together. Chaining produces non-additive components. Since the new Fisher measure is chained every quarter, it is also non-additive every quarter.

While this seemingly complicates analysis, conclusions drawn using published data on the Laspeyres formula, even in the years when the data is additive, could be very misleading. For example, at a quick glance, from the 1992 prices data it appears that computers and related equipment accounted for about 25% of total exports of goods in the year 2000. The question this really answers is: What share of exports would computers and related equipment account for in the year 2000 if they were sold at 1992 prices? In fact, at 2000 prices this commodity group accounts for about 10% of exports. This is a more relevant ratio in that it relates to the resources used and the incomes gained from the production of these commodities given 2000 price levels.

The Statistics Canada website has more information about this change.

List of Acronyms

Provinces:

- British Columbia – BC
- Alberta – AB
- Saskatchewan – SK
- Manitoba – MB
- Ontario – ON
- Quebec – QC
- New Brunswick – NB
- Nova Scotia – NS
- Prince Edward Island – PE
- Newfoundland and Labrador – NF

States:

- California – CA
- Oregon – OR
- Washington State – WA

Other Jurisdictional:

- CMA– Census Metropolitan Area
- GVRD – Greater Vancouver Regional District (Vancouver)
- LFV – Lower Fraser Valley
- CRD – Capital Regional District (Victoria)
- RBC – Regional BC

Statistical:

- BLS – Bureau of Labor Statistics (US)
- BEA – Bureau of Economic Analysis (US)
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency (US)
- DHSS – Department of Health and Human Services (US)
- IRS – Internal Revenue Service (US)
- FMS – Statistics Canada's Financial Management System
- IA – Income Assistance
- EI – Employment Insurance

D. Critical Factors for Economic Growth and Development

In Fall 2001, the Economic Advisory Group (EAG) to the BC Progress Board was asked to identify the critical factors in the economic growth process. A lengthy preliminary list was initially developed, ranging from addressing aboriginal land claims to improving the efficiency of the public sector, fostering entrepreneurship and strengthening management. A more systematic matrix of ten key factors was then developed (see table on the following page). The three columns in the table represent:

- Necessary conditions – elements that must be present, be set up properly, and be the correct size and scale so as to facilitate economic growth;
- Growth agents – those factors that individually or in combination account for economic development; and,
- Enabling strategies – those initiatives to be undertaken by government that may lessen or eliminate barriers to investment and growth, or create opportunity for expansion to occur.

The three columns highlight ten critical prerequisites for sustained economic growth and development. The Table starts (cell one) with a realistic assessment of what the province can produce, leading to a group of goods and services industries that can locate in BC on a competitive and attractive rate-of-return basis. It concludes (cell ten) with strategies aimed at stimulating the investment (and capital accumulation) necessary to raise living standards over the medium and longer-term.

The other entries in the table identify additional categories of factors important to the economic growth process, such as a policy framework that encourages growth, high quality transportation and communications infrastructure, the availability of educated "human capital", receptiveness to innovation, and access to resources, markets and information.

An assessment of critical factors in the economic growth process from the perspective of a small trade-dependent, sub-national jurisdiction like British Columbia leads to an important conclusion: to attract the private sector investment necessary for sustained growth to occur, policy makers need to pay close attention to cost competitiveness. In particular, taxation and regulatory policies must be designed with a view to keeping overall business production costs competitive. Removal of monopolies and the introduction of competition into both regulated and public service markets may also support the objective of achieving competitive cost structures. Put simply, competitive taxation and regulatory policies are essential to encourage the investment spending that leads to technological innovation and upgrading, higher productivity and lower unit production costs.

I **Necessary Conditions**	II **Growth Agents**	III **Enabling Strategies**
1. Supply Spectrum *Endowment* *Location* *Attractive powers* *Industry structure* *Regional dispersion*	4. Entrepreneurship, Management *Organization* *Strategy* *Decision-making* *Capital attraction*	8. Access to Opportunity *Resources* *Markets and trade* *Information, knowledge* *Savings /investment generation*
2. Policy Framework *Attitude to business* *Taxes* *Regulation* *Size & functions of government*	5. Labour and Human Capital *Education* *Innovation* *Income-generation* *Flexible labour markets*	9. Removal of Restrictions/ Inefficiencies *Resolve aboriginal land claims* *Infrastructure deficiencies, bottlenecks* *Monopoly services* *Regulatory access*
3. Infrastructure *Transportation* *international* *interregional* *metropolitan* *Communications* *Services* *Institutions*	6. Technology *Incorporated* *Developed* *Cost reduction* *Product, process improvement*	10. Stimulation of Investment *Formation of partnerships* *Strategic sales (assets, crown corporations)* *Financial institutions* *Venture capital*
	7. Capital Accumulation *Net (real) capital stock* *Total factor productivity* *Profits /investment*	

Source: CCG Consulting Group Ltd.

Similarly, since skilled human capital, like investment capital, is also increasingly mobile across jurisdictions, the taxes and levies imposed on individuals by government also need to be reasonable as measured against the value of the public services and programs delivered by state institutions.

The combination of critical factors is not unique to British Columbia. It is true that BC is unusual in the complexity of its economic and social setting, and its administrative challenges are certainly formidable. Even so, the trends seen in BC have also been experienced in many other sub-national jurisdictions where economies are open to trade and competition. Among these are static or sub-par economic and population growth rates in outlying rural or resource-based regions (see Chapter IV of this report for further information), and a related trend toward urbanization and a clustering of economic growth stimuli and employment opportunities through a process of agglomeration.

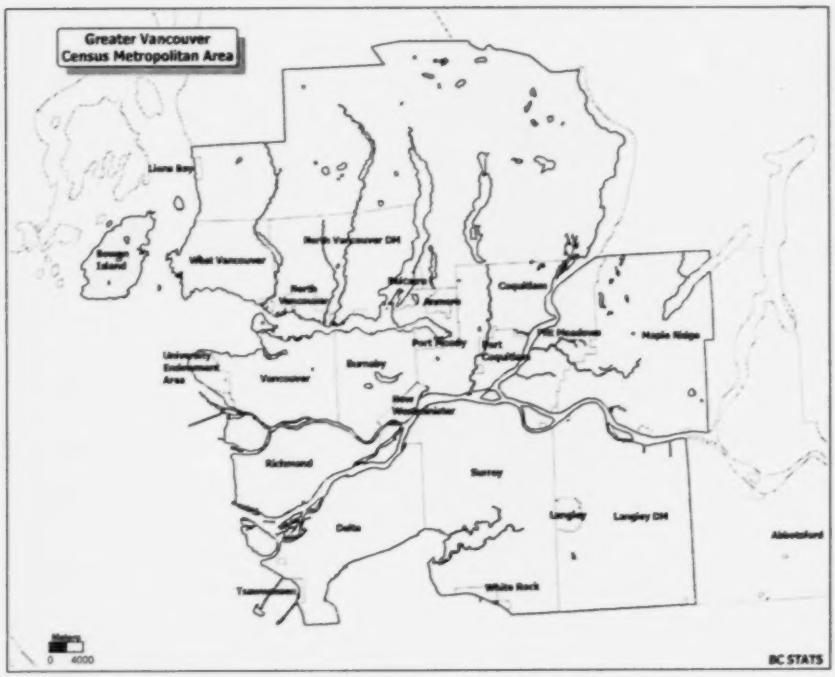
What sets BC apart is the particular mix of sectors and regions, and the need to apply the tests that the above factors represent (as a check-list) on an industry-by-industry basis. For both the province as a whole and its numerous sectoral and regional segments, the various growth-supporting factors can, over time, be integrated with the benchmarking exercise that the Progress Board is undertaking. In most cases, corresponding benchmarks already exist for the entries in each factor category. In other cases, it may be difficult to provide appropriate indicators that meet the criteria for the Progress Board's measurement framework (i.e. timeliness and cross-jurisdictional comparability).

A further use for the critical factors may be in policy determination. In this respect, two or more critical factors may be combined to lead to appropriate policy approaches. For example, projects considered to be worthy in the infrastructure category (in the 1st column) may be tested against criteria in capital accumulation (in the 2nd) and those proposed for private investment or a private-public partnership (in the 3rd). In a similar vein, the policy framework components of taxes, regulation, property rights (among others) should lead to an expansion and upgrading of entrepreneurship and management, and thus to an increase in the number of firms taking advantage of greater access to opportunity.

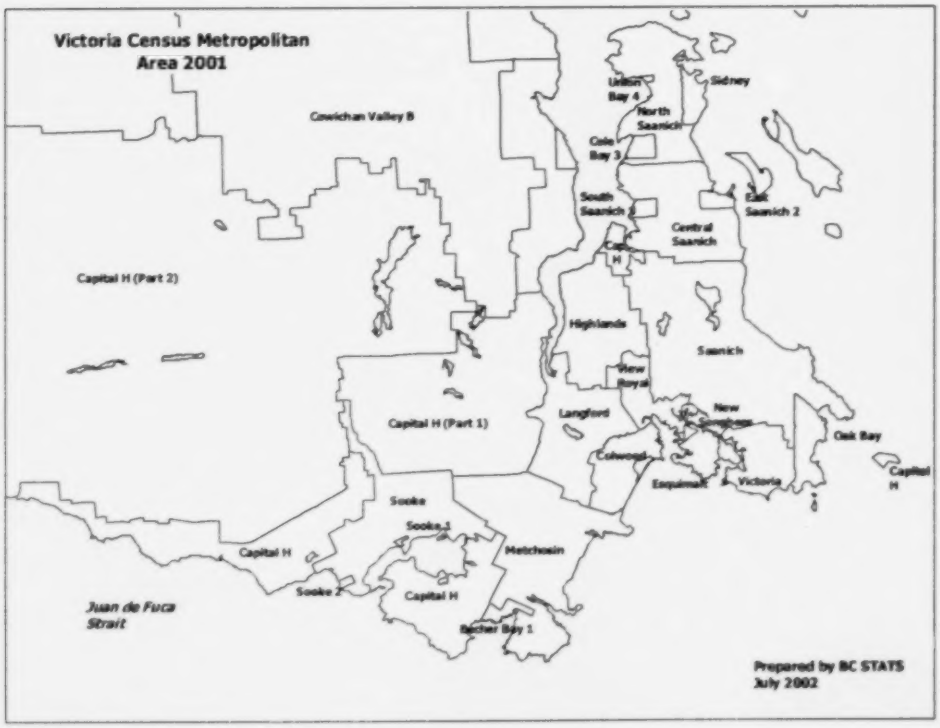
Finally, the various factors listed in the Table are consistent with empirical findings in modern economic growth theory. At its simplest, the basic policy prescription flowing from the theory is sometimes held to be lower taxes, streamlining regulations, reducing rigidities in labour markets, and investing in innovation and human capital development. These conditions are fundamental to establishing a setting conducive to sustained growth, but a number of other elements – from technology to capital formation – are also required. At the core, it is the adoption of technology, driven by committed managers and entrepreneurs, that leads to the productivity gains that are the source of higher incomes, and that bolster the relative competitiveness of a jurisdiction. Yet before this result can occur, there must be ongoing investment, which requires profits that may need to be generated internally through a general cost reduction strategy.

E. Maps of the Vancouver and Victoria CMAs

Map of Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area



Map of Victoria Census Metropolitan Area



F. Glossary of Terms

Economy, Innovation and Education

Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Per Capita ($1997)
Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita is a measure of current economic output (as measured by Gross Domestic Product, or GDP) expressed on a per person basis. GDP is the value added to the economy by the current productive activities of individuals, businesses, governments and non-residents (who may purchase and sell goods and services to British Columbians). The provincial GDP includes all activities that take place within its borders. The "real" or constant dollar estimates are inflation adjusted and expressed in terms of a base year, in this case, 1997. Constant dollar estimates are calculated by dividing current dollar data by a price index that measures changes in the prices of specific goods and services relative to 1997. Thus "real" GDP measures real change in the size of the economy by excluding the change which is the result of inflation. The July 1 population estimate is used to calculate the per capita values.

Real Personal Disposable Income (PDI) Per Capita ($1997)
Real Personal Disposable Income (PDI) per capita is the value, adjusted to remove the effects of inflation, of personal income left after the payment of income tax, contributions to social insurance plans (e.g., employment insurance premiums) and various other transfers to government such as medical insurance premiums, expressed on a per person basis. Personal income includes all income received by individuals (and societies of individuals such as trusteed pension plans) who are resident in the province, whether earned at home or elsewhere. This includes both earnings and transfer income: wages and salaries; employer contributions to pensions, EI, CPP, WCB etc; net income of farm operators and unincorporated businesses; interest and miscellaneous investment income; government transfers such as welfare, OAS and EI benefits; and transfers from corporations (e.g., forgiveness of bad debts) and individuals. Constant (real) dollar estimates are calculated by dividing current dollar data by a price index that measures changes in the prices of consumer goods and services relative to 1997. The July 1 population estimate is used to calculate the per capita values.

Employment to Population Ratio (15 to 64)
The employment to population ratio (15 to 64) is the number of employed persons aged 15 to 64 (i.e. working for pay or profit, doing unpaid work contributing to the operation of a family farm or business or with a job but absent from work in the survey week) expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 to 64. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Average Hourly Earnings
Average hourly earnings are based on payroll and hours worked data for employees whose basic wage is expressed as an hourly rate. (About half of employees fall into this category). Information is gathered from all employers in Canada for whom T-4 Supplementary Forms must be completed, except for those in agriculture, fishing and trapping, private household services, religious organizations and military personnel. Data is collected for the last pay week of each month and annual figures are the weighted averages of the twelve monthly surveys. Average hourly earnings are calculated by dividing the total weekly payroll (for employees paid by the hour) by the total weekly paid hours for those employees. Payroll is the gross amount before deductions for income tax, EI, CPP etc. and includes overtime pay, bonuses and other special payments. Excluded are taxable benefits and employer contributions to pension plans, EI, CPP etc. Employee numbers include both full and part-time/part-week.

Labour Productivity (Business Sector)

Labour productivity is a measure of the overall efficiency of the economy. It is calculated as the ratio of constant dollar GDP (or output) in the business sector to total worker-hours (a measure of the quantity of labour used in production). Worker-hours are equal to the number of people employed times average hours worked in a year.

The labour productivity estimates are for the business sector, which includes all industries in the economy except for government, health care, education, and the imputed rental income component of GDP. These industries are excluded because their output (or much of their output) is not a service that is bought or sold so it has no market valuation. GDP measures for these industries are largely based on wage data so by definition, there can be little or no productivity growth. Imputed rental income is excluded because it is a measure of the potential rental income that is foregone by homeowners who choose to live in, rather than rent out, their property, and does not have any corresponding employment.

Although labour productivity measures are commonly used because they are relatively easy to calculate, they are an imperfect measure of productivity change over time. Labour, capital and technological change all play a role in economic growth. Labour productivity change may be the result of either more efficient use of labour inputs, or changes in the amount or efficiency with which capital inputs (such as machinery and equipment) are used in production.

When comparing productivity among jurisdictions, it is important to take into account differences in industrial structure as some industries by their very nature will have higher labour productivity than others. For example, labour productivity in personal service industries will by definition be lower than in an industry such as oil refining, where production is capital intensive.

Total Exports per Capita ($1997)

Total exports per capita is the ratio of the total value of exports in a given calendar year to the population as of July 1st in that year. Exports include all types of goods and services that are produced in a given province but consumed outside its boundaries. Service exports are primarily services such as transportation, storage and insurance, which are provided to non-residents who export or import goods that are transported through a province, or enter or leave the country through its customs ports. Provinces engage in trade with other regions of Canada, as well as with international trading partners, so both inter-provincial and international exports are included in the total.

Taxpayer-Supported Debt to GDP

The appropriate measure of net public debt burden is in relation to the size of the gross domestic product (GDP). Taxpayer-supported debt includes government direct debt, and the guaranteed and non-guaranteed debt of taxpayer-supported Crown corporations and agencies that require a subsidy from the provincial government.

Per Capita Tax Burden (Consolidated Provincial and Local Governments - FMS)

Estimates of the per capita tax burden include the following (on a per person basis):

- Income taxes (personal, corporate, and specific mining and logging taxes)
- Consumption taxes (sales taxes, taxes on alcohol, tobacco, gasoline and motive fuels, amusement taxes, and profits from liquor and gaming operations)
- Property taxes (taxes on land and capital)
- Other taxes (payroll taxes, fees for motor vehicle licences, natural resource taxes and licences, and other miscellaneous taxes)
- Health insurance premiums
- Contributions to social insurance plans.

Top Marginal Tax Rate
To arrive at the top marginal personal income tax rate, the peak marginal tax rate at the provincial level is added to the peak rate set by the federal government.

Provincial Deficit/Surplus Levels
A deficit is an excess of expenditure over government revenue, while a surplus is an excess of revenue over expenditure.

Net Inter-provincial Migration
Net inter-provincial migration is the difference between the number of those moving to British Columbia from the rest of Canada and those leaving British Columbia to take up residence elsewhere in Canada.

Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation (Business Investment)
Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation is a measure of business spending on machinery and equipment, building and engineering construction. Also included is the value of current residential construction, alterations and improvements to existing buildings and property transfer costs (such as real estate commissions and property transfer taxes). The constant dollar estimates are inflation adjusted and expressed in terms of a base year, in this case, 1997. Constant dollar estimates are calculated by dividing current dollar data by a price index that measures changes in the prices of these goods and services relative to 1997. Gross Fixed Capital Formation is a component of the Gross Domestic Product.

Secondary School Graduation Rate
The secondary school graduation rate is the number of students graduating from secondary schools per 1,000 population 18 years of age (at July 1 each year). For graduation, the year indicated is the end of the academic year. Secondary school graduations for Quebec include graduates from adult and trade/vocational programs. Graduates of night school and correspondence courses for Ontario adults are excluded. Public, private and federal schools are included.

University Completion Rate
The university completion rate is the number of persons aged 25 to 54 with a university degree expressed as a percentage of the population between 25 and 54 years of age. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Research and Development as a Percent of GDP
Research and Development (R &D) as a percent of GDP is the sum of expenditures reported by (or estimated for) performing sectors - government, business, higher education and private non-profit organizations - for research and development activity in Canada expressed as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product. The Gross Domestic Product is the value added to the economy by the current productive activities of individuals, businesses, governments and non-residents.

Natural and Applied Sciences Employment as a Per Cent of Total Employment
Natural and applied sciences employment as a percent of total employment is the number of persons employed in occupations in Natural and Applied Sciences expressed as a percentage of total employment. Included are occupations in the physical sciences, engineers, architects, mathematicians, systems analysts and programmers and associated technical occupations. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Financial Management System (FMS) - Government Sector

Statistics Canada's Financial Management System (FMS) is an accounting system for government statistics that puts data for federal, provincial and local governments on a consistent basis by using the same definition of government for all jurisdictions. Data are based on public accounts estimates, and budget information released by the various levels of government, but have been reworked to include all agencies that are under the direct control of the government, whether or not their activities have been reported in the public accounts of the various jurisdictions.

Provincial government data includes, in addition to government ministries or departments, agencies such as the Workers' Compensation Board, financing authorities, and other agencies of government such as the BC Assessment Authority in the case of British Columbia. By including all government-controlled agencies, it is possible to make more meaningful comparisons of the footprint governments leave in each jurisdiction.

Consolidated provincial/local figures have been amalgamated to ensure that inter-government transfers between provincial and local governments are not double-counted.

Environment, Health and Society

Life Expectancy at Birth

Life expectancy at birth is the average number of remaining years of life at birth based on current mortality rates.

Low Income Incidence

Low income incidence is the ratio (prevalence) of families and unattached individuals in low income (after tax) to the total population of families and unattached individuals. Statistics Canada has set Low Income Cut-Offs (LICOs) to be the income level at which 54.7% or greater of income after tax is being spent on food, shelter and clothing. The same LICO is used across Canada but is stratified by family size and urban area size. This measure of low income is used in absence of any official poverty measure in Canada. Families are defined as two or more related persons sharing a dwelling unit; unattached individuals are persons either living alone or with other unrelated person(s).

Air Quality

Air quality is measured by the amount of fine particulates in the air. Fine particulates include dust, dirt, liquid droplets and smoke. Most air quality monitors measure fine particulates under 10 microns (PM_{10}), but recent findings have shown that particles 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$), pose the greatest health risk. Provinces began to measure $PM_{2.5}$ data in 2001.

Direct costs to health care resulting from poor air quality may be significant. Factories, cars, power plants, construction activity, and numerous other man-made sources emit fine particulates. Monitoring for particulates is relatively new in Canada and most continuous monitoring stations do not have more than 5 or 6 years of data.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Per Capita

The number of tonnes of greenhouse gases which are emitted per person. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, ozone, methane and nitrous oxide.

Wastewater Treatment

The amount of wastewater treated in Canada from residential and industrial origins. Wastewater consists of human waste and harmful substances such as motor oil, pesticide residue, paint thinner, pharmaceuticals and solvents that threaten human health and ecological balance.

Secondary treatment includes waste stabilization ponds. Data refers to the proportion of the population served by a municipal wastewater treatment system. In Canada, nearly 75% of the population (22.5 million) are served by municipal sewer systems. Population served by on-site systems are excluded. Approximately 17% of British Columbians are served by on-site systems under the Ministry of Health which are excluded from this analysis.

Protected Areas
The overall percentage of a jurisdiction's land base that is included within parks or protected areas. In British Columbia, protected areas consist of national parks, ecological reserves, class A and C parks, recreation areas and protected areas under the Environment and Land Use Act.

Cancer Mortality Rate
The cancer mortality rate is the number of deaths due to cancer per 100,000 population, adjusted for the age mix of the population. Death rates are standardised to allow comparisons of regions with differing age structures.

Low Birth Weight
The low birth weight rate is the number of live births where birth weight was less than 2,500 grams expressed as a percentage of total live births.

Personal and Property Crime
The personal and property crime rate is the number of incidents, based on the most serious offence, known to the police, expressed as a rate per 100,000 population. Personal crime includes those offences in the Criminal Code that deal with the application or threat of application, of force to a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual-assault, robbery and abduction. Excluded are traffic incidents resulting in death or bodily harm. Property crime includes incidents involving unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the threat or use of violence e.g. theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods.

Topic Boxes

Tax Competitiveness
Eight industries were utilized in order to determine the "industry average": advanced software, biomedical R&D, electronics assembly, food processing, metal components, pharmaceuticals, plastic products, and precision components. The tax rates presented are location specific and are limited to the following locations: Vancouver, BC, Calgary AB, Montreal QC, Toronto ON, Portland OR, San Diego CA, Seattle WA.

The effective tax rate was calculated using the actual results for each business. The effective tax rate was derived by using the tax elements relating to each business as the numerator, while the denominator was derived by adding back the tax elements to the net profit. The user should be cautioned that the effective tax rate could be misleading as it may be distorted by the magnitude of the net income as it compares to the tax elements.

Potential Years of Life Lost
Potential years of life lost (PYLL) is an indicator of premature mortality. PYLL represents the number of years lost when a person dies 'prematurely'. For the purposes of PYLL calculation, premature death is defined to be any death between the ages of 0 and 74 and is the sum of the differences between the actual age at death and age 75. This method gives greater weight to deaths that occur at younger ages than to those at older ages, and can vary according to gender, socio-

economic status, and geographic region. The PYLL Standardized Rate is an age-standardized measure of a population's PYLL, given in terms of a rate per 1,000 population. It is adjusted relative to a standard population (the 1991 Canada population estimate), thus allowing for spatial or temporal comparisons.

Registered Apprentices per 1,000 Population
Registered apprentices per 1,000 population is the number of all registered apprentices at various stages of their programs during a calendar year expressed as a rate per 1,000 population. The annual level of registered apprentices as reported by Statistics Canada includes all registered apprentices at the start of the year and all new additional apprentices registered during that year.

Registered Apprentice Completions per 1,000 Population
Registered apprentice completions per 1,000 population is the annual number of registered apprenticeship completions (those who have successfully completed their apprenticeship and received certification) expressed as a rate per 1,000 population.

The registered apprenticeship completion data from Statistics Canada only covers completions by registered apprentices; completions by "non-apprentices" who receive trades certification (those known as Trades Qualification Challengers who are approved to write and successfully pass an inter-provincial Red Seal or provincial trade qualification exam) are not included. Certifications of "non-apprentices" provide an additional significant source of new qualified tradespersons in B.C. and possibly also in other provinces. During the 1990's, the number of non-apprentices in B.C. receiving certification averaged about 2,500 per year, compared to an average of about 2,800 per year in apprenticeship completions. At present, a comparable inter-provincial dataset of non-apprentice trade certifications does not appear to exist.

Body Mass Index (BMI)
Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, which relates weight to height, is a common method of determining if an individual's weight is in a healthy range based on their height. Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, is calculated as follows: weight in kilograms divided by height in metres squared. The index is: under 20.0 (underweight), 20.0-24.9 (acceptable weight), 25.0-27.0 (some excess weight) and higher than 27.0 (overweight). It is measured for the population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women and persons less than 3 feet (0.914 metres) tall or greater than 6 feet 11 inches (2.108 metres).

Cardiovascular System Mortality Rate
The number of deaths due to diseases of the circulatory system (cardiovascular-diseases of the heart and stroke) as the underlying cause of death per 100,000 population, adjusted for the age mix of the population. Death rates are standardized to allow comparisons of regions with differing age structures.

Supplemental Information: US Comparisons

Real Per Capita GDP
The data for this indicator includes nominal Gross State Product (GSP), which is a similar concept to provincial GDP in Canada. The nominal data is converted to real using the implicit GSP price deflator (rebased to 1997 from 1996). The real GSP data is converted to 1997 Canadian dollars using the OECD PPP exchange rate for 1997.

Note: When "GDP" is used below it refers to the "GSP" data described above.

Data Sources: US Bureau of Economic Analysis; US Census Bureau.

Real Disposable Income Per Capita
Personal disposable income by state is converted to a 1997 base and then converted to 1997 Canadian dollars using the 1997 OECD PPP exchange rate.

Data Sources: US Bureau of Economic Analysis; US Census Bureau.

Employment Rate
This ratio is computed by dividing total employment for an area by its population aged 16 and older.

Data Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; US Census Bureau.

Real Average Hourly Wage
Real average hourly wage rates are calculated using industry-level employment and average hourly wage data and industry-level average hourly wage data. National average hourly wage data was used when state level data was not available. Average hourly wage data is converted to 1997 Canadian dollars using the OECD PPP exchange rate for 1997 after being adjusted for inflation and converted from a 1996 to a 1997 base.

Data Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hourly Labour Productivity
Productivity is calculated as the ratio of real GDP to total hours worked in the business sector. The business sector excludes government and health and education services. State level real GDP is converted to 1997 Canadian dollars using the 1997 OECD PPP exchange rate after US real GDP is converted from its 1996 base to a 1997 base. Total hours worked is the product of total weekly hours and 52 weeks. Total weekly hours are calculated using industry-level employment by state, industry-level average weekly hours by state and industry-level national weekly hours. National weekly hours data was used when state level data was not available.

Data Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Unit Labour Costs
This measure is computed as the ratio of labour costs measured in Canadian dollars to real GDP measured in 1997 Canadian dollars. Labour costs consist of the average hourly wage rate times the total hours worked in the jurisdiction. Note that this indicator considers the entire economy as opposed to just the business sector. Labour costs are converted using the OECD PPP exchange rate for the relevant year as this component of the indicator is measured in nominal dollars. State level real GDP is converted to 1997 Canadian dollars using the 1997 OECD PPP exchange rate after US real GDP is converted from its 1996 base to a 1997 base.

Data Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Per Capita Tax Burden – Consolidated Provincial (State) and Local
Per capita tax burden looks at the burden of combined provincial (state) and local taxes distributed on a per person basis.

Data Source: US Census Bureau.

Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rate
To arrive at the top marginal personal income tax rate, the peak marginal tax rate at the state level (if there is a state tax) is added to the peak federal marginal tax rate.

Data Sources: US Internal Revenue Service; California Franchise Tax Board; Oregon Department of Revenue; Washington State Department of Revenue.

Net Inter-state Migration
Inter-state migration is measured relative to the population of the respective state. A ratio above zero indicates a net addition to the population. A ratio below zero indicates a net decline in the population.

Data Source: US Census Bureau.

Research and Development
Research and development expenditures represent total private and public industrial expenditures on research and development. The indicator is R & D spending as a percent of GDP.

Data Source: US National Science Foundation.

Air Quality
Air quality is defined as the number of particulates under 10 or 2.5 microns per cubic meter of air. Particulate matter is seen as a health hazard since it can settle in the lungs and over time result in cardiovascular disease. Poor air quality is especially a risk to the elderly and those with existing breathing problems.

Data Source: US Environmental Protection Agency.

Low Birth Weight
Newborns weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) are classified as low birth weight infants. The low birth weight rate is calculated as the number of low birth weight infants per 1,000 live births.

Data Source: US Department of Health and Human Services.

Personal and Property Crime
The violent and property crime rate is based on the number of reported crimes per 100,000 people. Violent crime includes all degrees of murder, rape, robbery and assault. Property crime includes burglary, theft and arson.

Data Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports.

Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) Exchange Rate
The PPP exchange rate, which is published by the OECD, measures the average price of all goods and services produced in a country relative the price of goods and services produced in the United States. The goods and services covered are those that make up a country's GDP. The PPP is different from the actual Canada-United States exchange rate, which measures the cost in Canadian

dollars of purchasing a United States dollar. The PPP exchange rate is used to remove the effect of differences in the general price level between countries.

Data Source: The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Supplemental Information: BC Regional Comparisons

Economy, Innovation and Education

Employment
Employment is the number of persons working for pay or profit, doing unpaid work contributing to the operation of a family farm or business or with a job but absent from work in the survey week. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Employment to Population Ratio (15 to 64)
The employment to population ratio (15 to 64) is the number of employed persons aged 15 to 64 (i.e. working for pay or profit, doing unpaid work contributing to the operation of a family farm or business or with a job but absent from work in the survey week) expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 to 64. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Employment Income
Employment income is the aggregate of employment and self-employment income reported on tax returns as reported by Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. For tax purposes employment/self-employment income includes wages and salaries, taxable allowances, benefits, commissions, tips and gratuities as well as net income from fishing and farming operations, net professional and unincorporated business income and net commission income.

Manufacturing Shipments
Manufacturing shipments data is collected through surveys or administrative records of all manufacturers in Canada. The value of manufacturing shipments is the net selling value of goods made by the reporting establishments, or for their own accounts, from their own materials. Excluded are discounts, returns, allowances, taxes, duties, returnable containers, and contracted transportation charges for outward shipments. Included are transfers to other establishments of same companies, value of non-returnable containers, and book value of goods produced and shipped for the first time on a rental basis. Also included are consignment shipments to other countries.

Retail Sales
Retail sales are the aggregate sales made through retail locations. Excluded are direct sales which bypass the retail store such as vending machines, door-to-door, printed materials sold directly by the publisher such as newspapers and magazines, book and record clubs, and sales by businesses whose major activity is not retailing. However, catalogue/mail-order sales of businesses classed as "general merchandise stores" are included. Sales include all receipts of retailers including food serving, repairs and rentals net of returns, adjustments and discounts. Excluded are sales taxes and non-operating revenue.

Housing Starts
Housing starts is the count of dwelling units in new structures designated for non-transient year-round occupancy. The start is recorded when the footing is installed. All new dwelling units are counted for urban areas of 10,000 or greater population. Smaller areas are sampled and an estimate for these is included in the information reported.

Non-Residential Building Permits
Non-residential building permits are the value of building permits issued by municipalities and regional districts and reported to Statistics Canada for industrial, commercial, and institutional and government new buildings as well as alterations, renovations and additions to non-residential buildings.

Secondary School Graduation Rate
The secondary school graduation rate is the number of Grade 12 students who have graduated in the school year beginning in the indicated year including those graduating as a result of August provincial exams expressed as a percentage of the population 18 years old on July 1 of that year. Both public and private schools are included.

University Completion Rate
The university completion rate is the number of persons aged 25 to 54 with a university degree expressed as a percentage of the population between 25 and 54 years of age. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Natural and Applied Sciences Employment as a Percent of Total
Natural and applied sciences employment as a percent of total is number of persons employed in occupations in Natural and Applied Sciences expressed as a percentage of total employment. Included here are occupations in the physical sciences, engineers, architects, mathematicians, systems analysts and programmers and associated technical occupations. Excluded are persons in institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and persons living on Indian Reserves. Annual numbers are the average of the twelve monthly survey results.

Business Incorporations
Business incorporations are the number of firms incorporated under the Companies Act, BC Ministry of Finance. Incorporations can include holding companies as well as those actively carrying on business.

Business Bankruptcies
Business bankruptcies are the number of bankruptcies which are chiefly attributable to liabilities incurred as a result of carrying on a commercial venture or business and includes partnerships, proprietorships and limited companies. This is under federal bankruptcy legislation.

Population
Population refers to the number of Canadians and Non-permanent Residents who's usual place of residence is within the referenced geographic boundaries.

Environment, Health and Society

Air Quality
Air quality is measured by the amount of fine particulates in the air. Fine particulates include dust, dirt, liquid droplets and smoke. Most air quality monitors measure fine particulates under 10 microns (PM_{10}), but recent findings have shown that particles 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$), pose the greatest health risk. Provinces began monitoring $PM_{2.5}$ particulates in 2001.

Direct costs to health care resulting from poor air quality may be significant. Factories, cars, power plants, construction activity, and numerous other man-made sources emit fine particulates. Monitoring for PM_{10} is relatively new in Canada and most continuous monitoring stations do not have more than 5 or 6 years of data.

Wastewater Treatment
The amount of wastewater treated in Canada from residential and industrial origins. Wastewater consists of human waste and harmful substances such as motor oil, pesticide residue, paint thinner, pharmaceuticals and solvents that threaten human health and ecological balance.

Wastewater may be treated in four steps: preliminary and primary treatment filters solid material, secondary treatment removes greater fecal material, and tertiary treatment aims to remove substances such as contaminants.

Cancer Mortality
Cancer mortality is the total number of cancer deaths expressed as a percentage of the population 45 years of age and older. Since age-standardised data is not available sub-provincially, and as 95% of cancer deaths are to persons 45 years and older, this base was used to calculate the percentages and thus reduce the distortion caused by differing age structure in the sub-provincial areas.

Life Expectancy at Birth
Life expectancy at birth is the average number of remaining years of life at birth based on current mortality rates.

Low Birth Weight
The low birth weight rate is the number of live births where birth weight was less than 2,500 grams expressed as a percentage of total live births.

Personal and Property Crime Rate
The personal and property crime rate is the number of incidents, based on the most serious offence, known to the police, expressed as a rate per 100,000 population. Personal crime includes those offences in the Criminal Code that deal with the application or threat of application, of force to a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual-assault, robbery and abduction. Excluded are traffic incidents resulting in death or bodily harm. Property crime includes incidents involving unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the threat or use of violence e.g. theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods.

Low Income Incidence
Low income incidence is the ratio (prevalence) of families and unattached individuals in low income (after tax) to the total population of families and unattached individuals. Statistics Canada has set Low Income Cut-Offs (LICOs) to be the income level at which 54.7% or greater of income after tax is being spent on food, shelter and clothing. The same LICO is used across Canada

but is stratified by family size and urban area size. This measure of low income is used in absence of any official poverty measure in Canada. Families are defined as two or more related persons sharing a dwelling unit; unattached individuals are persons either living alone or with other unrelated person(s).

Income Assistance Recipients
Income assistance recipients are the number of persons 0 to 64 years of age receiving Basic BC Benefits expressed as a percentage of the population 0 to 64 years. Excluded are Disabled Persons, Children Living in the Home of a Relative and OAS/Seniors. Data does not include Aboriginal People living on reserve.

Employment Insurance Recipients
Employment insurance recipients are the number of persons 19 to 64 years of age receiving Employment Insurance expressed as a percentage of the population 19 to 64 years.

G. *Data Tables – Core Targets and Performance Indicators*

Economy, Innovation and Education

CT1: Real GDP per capita ($1997)											
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank
BC	28,350	28,771	28,699	28,592	28,557	28,885	28,992	29,573	30,595	30,252	4
AB	31,773	33,581	35,223	35,864	36,053	37,733	38,761	38,396	39,926	40,112	1
SK	24,154	25,666	26,701	26,893	27,540	28,529	29,657	29,607	30,531	30,312	3
MB	23,912	23,892	24,691	24,627	25,294	26,166	27,253	27,672	28,271	28,565	6
ON	29,061	29,018	30,341	31,018	30,973	31,948	33,083	35,178	36,294	36,256	2
QC	23,465	23,763	24,668	24,966	25,098	25,801	26,545	28,008	29,208	29,407	5
NB	20,378	20,908	21,322	21,985	22,114	22,341	23,190	24,574	24,881	25,062	7
NS	20,491	20,575	20,616	20,916	20,976	21,784	22,572	23,667	24,078	24,637	8
PE	18,313	18,386	19,000	20,059	20,507	20,438	21,372	22,094	22,957	22,799	10
NF	17,497	17,640	18,560	19,213	18,551	19,013	20,380	21,719	23,166	23,601	9
Canada	26,636	26,949	27,920	28,393	28,544	29,437	30,379	31,754	32,900	33,058	n/a
Sources: BC STATS; Statistics Canada, Provincial Economic Accounts - Catalogue 13-213											

CT1: Growth Rate of Real GDP per capita (Percent)												
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	Period Progress Rank
BC	(0.3)	1.5	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.1)	1.1	0.4	2.0	3.5	(1.1)	10	10
AB	(0.6)	5.7	4.9	1.8	0.5	4.7	2.7	(0.9)	4.0	0.5	6	3
SK	(3.9)	6.3	4.0	0.7	2.4	3.6	4.0	(0.2)	3.1	(0.7)	9	8
MB	0.8	(0.1)	3.3	(0.3)	2.7	3.4	4.2	1.5	2.2	1.0	3	9
ON	(0.5)	(0.1)	4.6	2.2	(0.1)	3.1	3.6	6.3	3.2	(0.1)	7	6
QC	(0.3)	1.3	3.8	1.2	0.5	2.8	2.9	5.5	4.3	0.7	5	4
NB	1.4	2.6	2.0	3.1	0.6	1.0	3.8	6.0	1.2	0.7	4	5
NS	1.0	0.4	0.2	1.5	0.3	3.9	3.6	4.9	1.7	2.3	1	7
PE	2.0	0.4	3.3	5.6	2.2	(0.3)	4.6	3.4	3.9	(0.7)	8	2
NF	(1.5)	0.8	5.2	3.5	(3.4)	2.5	7.2	6.6	6.7	1.9	2	1
Canada	(0.4)	1.2	3.6	1.7	0.5	3.1	3.2	4.5	3.6	0.5	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC STATS; Statistics Canada, Provincial Economic Accounts - Catalogue 13-213												

CT2: Real Per Capita Personal Disposable Income ($1997)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	19,237	18,997	18,804	18,794	18,443	18,431	18,427	18,736	19,288	19,513	3	8	10
AB	19,058	19,209	18,778	19,006	18,826	19,563	20,040	20,136	21,111	22,119	1	1	2
SK	15,558	15,598	15,301	16,121	16,737	15,684	16,141	16,706	16,926	17,205	8	5	7
MB	17,641	17,204	17,182	17,355	17,559	17,181	17,826	17,999	18,517	18,751	4	7	8
ON	20,346	19,814	19,600	19,698	19,276	19,594	20,066	20,603	21,439	21,378	2	10	9
QC	16,279	16,393	16,513	16,784	16,746	16,704	16,931	17,361	18,022	18,528	5	3	4
NB	15,592	15,655	15,626	16,084	15,976	15,960	16,556	17,071	17,328	17,721	7	4	1
NS	16,462	16,495	16,309	16,517	16,217	16,435	16,989	17,441	17,813	18,105	6	6	5
PE	15,527	15,974	15,508	15,746	15,437	15,460	15,730	16,238	16,622	16,793	9	9	6
NF	14,322	14,433	14,480	14,732	14,483	14,348	14,783	15,177	15,652	16,157	10	2	3
Canada	18,415	18,228	18,073	18,267	18,076	18,213	18,580	19,012	19,718	20,023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC STATS; Statistics Canada, Provincial Economic Accounts - Catalogue 13-213													

CT3: Employment rate (employment to population ratio, 15 to 64 year olds)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	70.0	70.0	70.8	70.6	69.6	69.7	68.6	69.4	70.2	69.1	6	9	10
AB	72.3	72.0	73.3	74.2	74.9	75.8	76.5	76.3	76.7	77.2	1	2	6
SK	71.8	71.9	72.5	72.6	72.1	73.5	74.0	74.1	74.5	73.2	3	10	9
MB	71.2	71.5	71.8	73.2	72.9	73.6	74.7	75.1	76.0	76.1	2	6	3
ON	68.9	68.4	68.5	68.9	68.8	69.5	70.8	72.2	73.3	72.9	4	8	8
QC	62.1	61.7	62.6	63.2	62.7	63.3	64.7	66.0	67.3	67.6	7	5	4
NB	59.4	60.0	59.6	61.2	60.3	61.0	62.3	64.1	64.8	64.5	9	7	2
NS	61.2	60.4	61.0	61.4	61.1	61.7	63.8	64.8	65.8	66.1	8	4	7
PE	62.5	62.7	63.3	64.5	65.4	65.1	66.1	66.2	68.9	69.2	5	3	1
NF	48.7	48.2	48.4	49.4	47.8	48.8	50.5	53.6	53.3	55.5	10	1	5
Canada	66.8	66.5	67.1	67.6	67.3	68.0	68.9	70.1	71.1	70.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI1: Real Average Hourly Earnings ($1997)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	16.36	16.09	16.16	16.46	16.52	16.52	16.39	15.99	16.29	16.26	1	2	8
AB	15.47	15.65	15.28	14.69	14.92	15.12	15.74	16.14	15.78	15.62	3	7	5
SK	14.77	14.56	14.68	14.37	14.10	14.41	14.45	14.42	14.39	14.11	6	10	10
MB	14.57	14.54	14.40	14.26	14.06	13.92	13.98	14.07	14.06	13.87	8	8	9
ON	16.14	16.11	16.41	16.22	16.46	16.11	16.29	16.40	16.36	16.22	2	5	6
QC	15.07	15.12	15.55	15.32	15.46	15.38	14.97	14.73	14.80	14.76	4	3	7
NB	13.52	13.57	13.34	13.27	13.59	13.57	13.91	13.87	13.99	13.77	9	9	4
NS	13.65	13.68	13.30	13.01	13.19	13.31	13.80	13.91	14.13	14.04	7	4	3
PE	11.18	11.31	11.27	11.76	12.34	12.08	12.42	12.57	12.17	12.06	10	6	2
NF	13.51	13.54	13.59	13.12	13.78	13.60	14.19	14.45	14.43	14.61	5	1	1
Canada	15.55	15.55	15.72	15.55	15.71	15.58	15.63	15.62	15.63	15.52	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI2: Real GDP Per Hour Worked in the Business Sector ($1997 Per Hour)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	28.6	28.6	28.7	29.1	29.1	29.4	30.0	30.3	30.7	31.7	5	2	8
AB	32.7	34.7	35.6	35.6	35.4	37.2	38.2	37.7	38.1	38.0	1	8	5
SK	25.1	26.2	27.3	27.4	28.4	29.6	31.1	31.0	31.8	32.1	4	6	2
MB	25.3	24.9	25.2	25.0	26.0	26.5	27.6	28.0	28.3	28.9	6	4	6
ON	30.2	30.0	30.9	32.0	31.5	32.2	32.9	34.5	35.0	35.2	2	7	4
QC	28.2	28.7	28.4	28.6	29.2	29.5	30.0	30.8	32.2	33.3	3	1	3
NB	23.4	23.3	23.8	24.0	24.5	24.2	25.0	25.8	25.6	26.1	8	5	9
NS	21.7	22.4	22.2	22.4	22.0	22.8	22.9	23.5	23.9	24.4	9	3	7
PE	19.0	18.8	18.9	19.7	19.2	18.8	19.6	20.4	19.6	19.4	10	9	10
NF	22.8	23.5	25.1	25.2	24.9	24.9	26.4	26.6	28.2	27.6	7	10	1
Canada	29.0	29.3	29.8	30.3	30.4	31.0	31.8	32.6	33.3	33.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI3: Exports of Goods and Services (International & Inter-provincial) Per Capita, $1997													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	11,663	11,801	12,147	12,497	12,312	12,549	12,782	13,668	14,138	13,400	7	10	10
AB	17,170	18,045	19,151	19,805	21,321	22,192	23,021	23,061	23,741	23,560	2	8	9
SK	13,383	13,928	15,979	15,758	16,527	18,816	19,364	19,576	20,218	20,288	3	5	7
MB	11,468	11,510	12,698	13,156	13,872	15,589	16,804	17,121	17,299	17,847	5	2	5
ON	15,660	16,778	18,295	19,494	20,324	21,562	22,865	25,029	26,182	24,868	1	9	6
QC	10,631	11,338	12,335	12,849	13,076	14,122	14,979	16,546	17,635	17,536	6	7	4
NB	11,892	12,465	13,318	14,225	14,562	14,989	15,804	16,631	16,483	18,301	4	1	3
NS	8,222	8,422	8,409	8,579	9,312	10,027	10,322	10,904	11,750	12,061	9	3	8
PE	8,817	8,856	8,684	8,984	9,164	10,091	11,462	12,246	12,397	12,462	8	4	2
NF	5,695	6,000	6,484	7,479	7,480	8,075	9,543	10,660	11,988	11,944	10	6	1
Canada	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI4: Taxpayer Supported Debt as a Percent of GDP													
	1992/ 93	1993/ 94	1994/ 95	1995/ 96	1996/ 97	1997/ 98	1998/ 99	1999/ 00	2000/ 01	2001/ 02	2001/ 02 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	18.3	19.1	18.9	18.9	19.5	19.4	20.1	20.9	19.3	20.9	2	10	8
AB	27.2	28.0	24.4	22.3	18.0	14.0	13.1	10.7	7.1	5.6	1	1	1
SK	52.9	46.7	41.5	38.7	32.1	29.9	27.7	26.4	23.4	24.1	4	8	2
MB	27.8	30.3	30.7	27.5	25.5	24.3	23.3	22.6	22.0	21.0	3	2	3
ON	24.1	27.5	29.2	30.9	32.2	31.4	30.4	27.8	25.5	24.9	5	4	7
QC	24.8	32.0	33.8	34.8	35.9	43.8	42.0	39.1	36.4	35.6	8	5	9
NB	37.8	39.5	38.5	35.7	34.8	34.1	33.5	35.8	33.1	31.8	7	3	6
NS	44.2	44.3	45.6	45.2	46.8	45.6	46.4	48.9	46.8	45.8	10	6	5
PE	15.1	31.2	39.3	37.0	35.1	35.6	33.2	32.3	30.5	30.2	6	7	10
NF	50.6	54.2	54.4	51.9	49.4	45.9	47.4	44.8	42.6	45.3	9	9	4
Canada	25.8	29.1	29.6	29.9	29.9	30.5	29.7	27.9	25.1	24.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI5: Per Capita Tax Burden, Consolidated Provincial and Local Government (dollars)													
	1992/ 93	1993/ 94	1994/ 95	1995/ 96	1996/ 97	1997/ 98	1998/ 99	1999/ 00	2000/ 01	2001/ 02	2001/ 02 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	4,128	4,678	4,775	4,867	4,926	4,871	4,823	4,923	5,044	4,951	6	4	1
AB	3,694	3,824	4,081	4,094	4,233	4,583	4,731	4,727	4,803	4,878	5	6	2
SK	3,972	4,141	4,254	4,606	4,649	5,081	5,100	4,902	5,956	5,088	8	1	9
MB	3,798	4,017	4,124	4,341	4,453	4,574	5,016	4,933	5,242	5,065	7	2	8
ON	4,785	4,963	5,142	5,413	5,548	5,744	5,830	6,134	6,310	6,295	9	5	3
QC	5,186	5,143	5,253	5,477	5,554	5,812	6,290	6,580	6,989	6,798	10	3	5
NB	2,995	3,302	3,446	3,590	3,816	3,599	3,500	3,808	3,985	4,084	3	9	6
NS	3,106	3,236	3,315	3,374	3,553	3,582	3,704	3,878	4,115	4,317	4	10	7
PE	2,727	3,054	3,054	3,286	3,396	3,448	3,508	3,803	3,891	3,985	2	8	10
NF	3,033	3,092	3,280	3,532	3,583	3,324	3,469	3,759	3,881	3,963	1	7	4
Canada	4,484	4,649	4,798	5,002	5,110	5,285	5,462	5,670	5,924	5,855	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI6: Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rates (Percent)													
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2002 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	51.10	54.20	54.20	54.20	54.20	54.20	52.30	51.30	45.70	43.70	2	1	3
AB	46.10	46.10	46.10	46.10	46.10	45.60	45.20	43.70	39.00	39.00	1	4	1
SK	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	51.60	50.80	49.70	45.00	44.50	3	2	2
MB	50.40	50.40	50.40	50.40	50.40	50.10	49.00	48.10	46.40	46.40	4	4	4
ON	50.50	53.20	53.20	52.90	51.60	50.30	48.80	47.90	46.41	46.41	5	4	6
QC	52.90	52.90	52.90	52.90	52.90	52.60	52.20	50.70	48.70	48.22	9	3	9
NB	50.70	51.40	51.40	51.40	51.10	50.40	49.70	48.80	46.84	46.84	6	4	5
NS	50.30	53.80	50.30	50.30	50.00	49.70	49.20	48.80	47.34	47.34	7	4	8
PE	50.30	50.30	50.30	50.30	50.30	50.30	49.60	48.80	47.37	47.37	8	4	7
NF	51.30	51.30	51.30	53.30	53.30	53.30	52.90	51.30	48.64	48.64	10	4	10
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI7: Provincial Surplus/(Deficit) as a Percent of GDP													
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2001/02 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	(1.7)	(1.0)	(0.2)	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.1)	(0.9)	0.0	1.1	(1.5)	10	9	9
AB	(4.6)	(1.7)	1.1	1.2	2.6	2.5	1.0	2.3	4.4	0.5	1	10	1
SK	(2.8)	(1.2)	0.5	0.1	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	5	3	2
MB	(1.4)	(1.8)	(0.8)	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	3	1	10
ON	(4.4)	(3.8)	(3.3)	(2.7)	(2.0)	(1.1)	(0.5)	0.2	0.8	0.0	4	7	3
QC	(3.2)	(3.0)	(3.4)	(2.2)	(1.8)	(1.1)	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	5	4	5
NB	(1.9)	(1.8)	(0.5)	0.3	0.4	0.2	(0.9)	0.0	0.4	0.2	2	5	4
NS	(3.4)	(3.0)	(1.3)	(1.0)	(0.6)	(2.2)	(1.2)	(3.5)	0.6	(0.4)	7	8	7
PE	(3.5)	(2.9)	(0.0)	0.2	(0.1)	(0.3)	0.2	(0.2)	(0.4)	(0.4)	8	2	8
NF	(2.7)	(2.1)	(1.2)	0.1	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.0	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.5)	9	6	6
Average	(3.5)	(2.8)	(2.0)	(1.5)	(0.9)	(0.4)	(0.2)	0.3	1.1	(0.1)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI8: Net Inter-provincial Migration per 1,000 Population													
	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2001/02 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	11.6	10.6	8.0	5.8	2.5	(2.5)	(3.6)	(3.6)	(2.0)	(1.7)	7	2	9
AB	(0.4)	(0.6)	(0.2)	2.8	9.5	15.2	8.7	7.7	6.8	8.7	1	4	4
SK	(6.3)	(5.4)	(3.6)	(2.1)	(2.7)	(1.9)	(4.2)	(7.7)	(8.2)	(8.5)	10	3	5
MB	(5.0)	(4.1)	(2.9)	(3.2)	(5.2)	(4.6)	(1.9)	(3.0)	(3.8)	(4.6)	8	10	2
ON	(1.3)	(0.9)	(0.3)	(0.3)	0.2	0.8	1.5	1.9	1.6	0.6	3	5	6
QC	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.7)	(2.4)	(2.3)	(1.8)	(1.7)	(1.3)	(1.1)	4	8	1
NB	(1.9)	(0.9)	(1.1)	(0.5)	(1.7)	(4.2)	(1.7)	(1.6)	(2.0)	(1.2)	5	7	10
NS	0.1	(2.0)	(3.0)	(1.3)	(1.8)	(2.7)	0.2	(0.3)	(2.2)	(1.3)	6	1	8
PE	5.0	4.7	2.6	4.7	1.0	(3.0)	1.4	0.8	1.2	4.9	2	9	3
NF	(5.3)	(8.5)	(12.1)	(13.1)	(14.5)	(17.1)	(10.4)	(7.9)	(8.4)	(4.7)	9	0	0
Average	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI9: Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation as a Percent of GDP

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	18.6	17.9	19.1	17.7	16.8	18.6	16.9	16.6	16.8	17.7	5	1	9
AB	18.7	19.7	22.0	21.5	21.8	26.6	27.9	26.6	29.9	31.1	1	2	1
SK	16.6	15.2	16.2	17.4	19.1	24.9	20.6	21.1	20.7	18.7	4	8	6
MB	11.9	12.5	12.2	12.9	14.1	16.0	15.4	15.5	15.7	15.2	9	5	4
ON	15.0	13.5	13.3	12.8	13.9	15.7	15.5	16.0	16.0	15.6	7	4	8
QC	15.0	14.5	14.2	12.8	13.6	14.3	14.7	15.4	15.6	15.0	10	7	10
NB	13.7	12.2	11.7	12.3	13.3	12.9	14.8	18.4	19.0	15.5	8	10	7
NS	12.6	12.1	13.0	12.4	13.5	17.6	18.7	22.6	19.7	18.9	3	6	2
PE	11.5	12.6	16.1	17.5	18.0	13.3	13.3	14.9	16.0	16.1	6	3	5
NF	18.5	21.3	24.4	24.7	20.7	24.1	21.9	26.8	24.2	21.5	2	9	3
Canada	15.9	15.2	15.6	14.8	15.5	17.5	17.3	17.6	18.0	17.8	n/a	n/a	n/a

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

PI10: Secondary School Graduates (per 1,000 population aged 18 years)

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001/02 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	620.5	658.4	652.2	636.4	660.4	674.6	669.5	713.7	736.2	750.9	9	7	3
AB	619.1	644.5	663.1	626.9	650.0	643.7	640.3	635.2	633.4	662.7	10	2	7
SK	734.1	736.2	754.7	751.2	734.9	711.7	743.7	731.9	748.5	794.3	5	1	10
MB	732.9	775.2	788.1	747.6	762.4	753.4	764.9	760.1	741.7	769.9	8	3	9
ON	702.5	739.1	752.4	752.8	752.6	738.2	756.2	755.0	769.1	779.6	6	8	4
QC	654.6	702.6	689.6	683.7	873.2	909.7	851.5	802.9	811.1	818.6	3	9	1
NB	794.7	831.9	828.1	845.9	828.2	844.3	846.5	825.8	843.5	861.9	1	6	8
NS	674.4	702.7	706.1	734.5	750.4	741.6	795.4	803.3	797.8	774.7	7	10	6
PE	749.1	744.2	774.8	808.5	803.6	804.9	778.5	871.4	818.2	840.6	2	4	5
NF	661.4	713.3	721.4	777.6	757.8	801.6	782.4	809.2	796.3	816.3	4	5	2
Average	676.0	713.0	716.9	711.1	762.0	766.0	759.4	751.8	761.5	774.4	n/a	n/a	n/a

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

PI11: Percent of Population 25 to 54 Years with University Completion													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	15.2	16.5	17.9	17.9	18.9	18.8	19.7	20.1	20.8	20.1	4	10	5
AB	17.1	18.4	18.4	17.7	17.7	18.5	18.2	18.7	18.5	20.5	2	2	10
SK	12.5	13.5	13.7	13.7	14.8	14.9	15.5	15.9	16.2	15.7	8	9	9
MB	14.6	15.7	15.6	16.2	16.8	17.3	17.8	18.3	18.8	19.4	6	6	7
ON	18.6	19.4	20.5	20.6	20.5	21.3	21.5	22.6	24.0	24.4	1	8	6
QC	14.7	15.7	16.0	17.1	17.1	18.0	18.6	19.3	19.8	20.4	3	7	2
NB	12.3	12.1	12.6	13.3	13.6	13.7	14.7	15.3	14.9	15.3	9	5	3
NS	15.0	16.7	16.8	16.0	16.5	16.3	17.9	17.8	18.5	19.4	5	4	8
PE	12.1	14.3	13.1	15.0	13.9	15.1	15.2	15.5	14.3	16.7	7	1	1
NF	10.0	11.0	11.0	11.8	9.9	11.4	11.8	11.6	12.0	13.0	10	3	4
Average	16.2	17.2	17.9	18.2	18.3	19.0	19.4	20.2	21.0	21.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI12: Gross Expenditures on R&D as a Per Cent of GDP												
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	0.96	1.01	0.97	1.06	1.01	0.93	0.92	0.96	1.01	7	4	7
AB	1.08	1.04	1.03	1.10	1.06	1.02	0.98	1.10	0.94	8	10	9
SK	1.01	1.11	1.02	0.97	0.95	0.80	0.98	0.94	1.04	5	2	4
MB	1.18	1.15	1.20	1.20	1.11	1.03	0.90	0.95	1.16	4	1	5
ON	1.88	1.95	2.08	2.16	2.12	2.08	2.13	2.19	2.13	2	7	3
QC	1.86	2.00	2.05	2.08	2.10	2.12	2.13	2.23	2.31	1	5	1
NB	0.88	0.87	0.88	0.88	0.85	0.90	0.76	0.88	0.85	9	8	10
NS	1.36	1.29	1.34	1.42	1.37	1.32	1.26	1.46	1.49	3	6	6
PE	0.71	0.60	0.69	0.67	0.60	0.57	0.61	0.77	0.82	10	3	2
NF	1.11	1.15	1.14	1.06	0.95	1.00	0.98	1.06	1.03	6	9	8
Average	1.57	1.63	1.68	1.74	1.71	1.66	1.68	1.76	1.76	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada												

PI13: Natural and Applied Sciences & Related Occupations as a % of Total Employment													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.1	5.4	6.2	6.3	6.1	4	8	7
AB	5.4	5.8	5.4	5.2	5.4	6.0	6.1	6.8	6.5	6.9	2	6	9
SK	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.9	3.5	3.2	3.6	3.4	4.0	10	3	4
MB	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.7	5.0	4.8	9	9	6
ON	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.6	6.0	6.8	7.2	7.5	1	7	3
QC	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.6	6.3	3	10	10
NB	4.2	3.8	4.1	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.2	5.1	4.9	5.4	7	5	8
NS	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.1	4.9	4.7	4.9	5.5	6	4	5
PE	3.6	4.8	3.6	3.3	4.4	3.7	4.5	4.7	4.2	5.0	8	1	1
NF	4.5	4.8	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1	6.1	5	2	2
Average	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.4	5.7	6.3	6.5	6.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

Environment, Health & Society

CT4: Rank by Province (Most recent data available)					
	Air Quality	GHG Per Capita	Wastewater Treatment	Protected Areas	Environmental Quality
	2001	2000	1999	2000 - 2002	
BC	3	3	5	1	1
AB	5	10	2	2	4
SK	6	9	1	4	5
MB	4	6	3	5	3
ON	n/a	5	4	3	2
QC	8	1	7	7	6
NB	7	8	6	10	10
NS	2	7	8	6	6
PE	n/a	2	9	9	9
NF	1	4	10	8	6

CT5: Life Expectancy at Birth, Both Sexes (Years)													
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	78.1	78.4	78.4	78.3	78.6	78.9	78.9	79.3	79.5	80.0	1	3	3
AB	77.9	78.0	78.3	78.2	78.3	78.5	78.5	78.9	79.1	79.2	3	8	7
SK	78.0	78.1	78.9	78.5	78.4	78.1	78.3	78.5	78.5	78.5	5	9	9
MB	77.5	77.6	77.9	77.6	77.9	77.6	78.0	78.0	78.0	78.0	9	9	10
ON	77.9	78.0	78.2	78.1	78.2	78.4	78.6	78.9	79.2	79.4	2	6	5
QC	77.1	77.3	77.7	77.4	77.7	77.7	78.1	78.0	78.4	78.5	5	7	6
NB	77.3	77.7	77.6	77.5	77.6	77.7	78.1	78.2	78.0	78.4	7	5	8
NS	76.7	77.3	77.0	77.4	77.2	77.8	77.7	77.8	77.8	78.7	4	2	1
PE	76.6	76.4	77.5	77.1	78.0	77.4	77.2	79.4	77.4	78.4	7	1	2
NF	76.1	76.7	76.9	76.8	76.6	77.2	77.5	76.9	77.3	77.7	10	4	4
Canada	77.6	77.8	78.0	77.9	78.0	78.2	78.4	78.6	78.8	79.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

CT6: Prevalence (%) of Families & Unattached Individuals below the After-Tax Low Income Cut-Offs													
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2000 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	16.1	15.8	16.8	16.6	15.6	18.1	17.7	15.7	17.1	16.3	9	8	8
AB	15.5	18.7	17.9	15.9	15.5	17.9	17.2	15.5	14.1	13.3	5	5	3
SK	15.1	15.1	14.5	13.6	13.4	14.6	13.2	12.5	12.4	12.2	3	9	1
MB	19.2	19.1	17.4	18.2	17.3	18.6	18.5	17.1	16.8	16.0	8	7	2
ON	13.4	12.8	14.5	12.9	14.5	15.6	14.8	12.9	13.0	12.0	2	3	5
QC	20.7	19.2	20.5	20.8	20.4	22.5	22.3	20.4	19.6	18.5	10	6	4
NB	12.9	13.8	13.9	14.6	14.1	14.4	15.1	13.7	12.4	12.3	4	10	6
NS	13.2	15.4	14.3	16.0	17.0	16.7	16.6	17.0	15.2	14.2	6	4	10
PE	12.1	9.1	7.9	8.6	11.2	12.4	12.6	10.9	13.1	11.8	1	1	9
NF	15.0	15.9	15.9	16.5	18.0	16.4	15.8	16.5	16.6	15.3	7	2	7
Canada	16.1	15.8	16.7	16.1	16.4	18.0	17.5	15.8	15.6	14.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

PI14: Air Quality - Annual Mean PM_{10} Concentrations (µg/m3)										
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Vancouver				15	15	14	14	14	13	14
Edmonton	24	24	24	26	21	20	24	31	28	25
Regina	20	21	17	19	17	18	22	24	20	20
Winnipeg				24	24	22	22	22	21	19
Toronto							19	20	20	18
Montreal							25	26	23	22
Saint John			14			15	18	20	29	19
Charlottetown							9	0	14	12

PI14: Air Quality - Annual Mean $PM_{2.5}$ Concentrations (µg/m3)		
	2001	2001 rank
Vancouver	5.3	3
Calgary	6.3	5
Regina	8.2	6
Winnipeg	5.5	4
Toronto	n/a	n/a
Montreal	9.7	8
Saint John	8.3	7
Sydney	5.0	2
St John's	4.9	1

Source: Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, 2001, Air Resources Branch

PI15: Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Tonnes per capita)													
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2000 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	15.6	14.9	15.2	15.4	16.0	16.1	15.5	15.5	15.9	16.2	3	4	3
AB	66.7	68.3	69.3	71.7	73.0	73.0	72.3	70.9	72.3	74.1	10	6	8
SK	46.0	49.9	52.6	55.6	57.9	59.0	59.6	59.8	59.8	60.5	9	2	10
MB	17.9	18.1	17.6	18.0	18.4	19.0	18.1	18.5	18.3	18.7	6	5	4
ON	17.3	17.4	16.4	16.4	16.5	16.9	17.2	17.0	17.3	17.7	5	7	2
QC	11.4	11.5	11.7	12.1	11.9	11.8	11.8	12.0	12.1	12.3	1	3	1
NB	20.5	21.4	20.3	22.1	22.5	22.0	25.2	26.4	25.2	26.8	8	9	9
NS	21.1	21.7	21.4	21.0	20.6	20.6	21.2	21.2	21.6	22.8	7	8	7
PE	14.8	14.9	14.5	14.4	14.0	14.8	14.9	14.6	14.5	15.6	2	10	5
NF	14.2	14.0	14.2	12.8	14.6	14.9	16.0	18.9	16.6	16.4	4	1	6
Canada	21.4	21.7	21.6	22.1	22.4	22.6	22.7	22.8	23.0	23.6	n/a	n/a	n/a

Sources: BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; Environment Canada

PI16: Wastewater Treatment - Secondary or better treatment						
	1991	1994	1996	1999	Rank by Province	Period Progress Rank
BC	30	31	30	63	5	1
AB	100	100	100	99	2	8
SK	65	64	95	100	1	2
MB	98	98	98	98	3	7
ON	87	94	94	94	4	6
QC	36	44	47	54	7	3
NB	70	65	66	62	6	10
NS	29	31	37	39	8	4
PE	18	18	26	20	9	5
NF	8	7	12	4	10	9
Sources: BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; Environment Canada, MUD database. 2001						

PI17: Protected Areas (Percent of Land Base)				
	2000	2001	2002	Rank
BC	11.40	12.95	12.54	1
AB	9.99	12.50	12.41	2
SK	6.01	6.40	8.78	4
MB	8.61	8.40	8.40	5
ON	8.74	8.90	9.00	3
QC	4.31	n/a	4.80	7
NB	3.17	3.17	n/a	10
NS	8.30	n/a	n/a	6
PE	4.19	4.19	n/a	9
NF	4.32	n/a	n/a	8
Canada	6.85	n/a	n/a	n/a
Source: BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection				

PI18: Age Standardized Mortality Rate Per 100,000 Population - All Malignant Neoplasms (Cancer)												
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1998 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	175.9	174.3	170.1	173.6	172.9	168.2	168.7	167.9	164.8	1	1	2
AB	174.3	174.4	176.6	176.9	169.7	173.6	176.5	167.8	165.5	2	2	4
SK	174.1	171.8	164.8	169.9	175.7	171.8	173.1	166.2	174.8	3	9	8
MB	190.1	183.4	189.8	189.6	185.9	191.5	187.2	183.2	191.2	6	8	9
ON	187.3	188.8	187.2	186.7	189.1	185.5	183.6	174.4	176.8	4	6	3
QC	213.6	215.8	212.5	212.3	209.2	205.5	209.5	203.3	204.9	9	5	5
NB	197.6	195.5	196.8	198.3	196.6	201.8	195.4	193.2	200.1	8	7	10
NS	216.7	212.4	215.6	214.9	213.9	207.1	212.3	208.7	207.9	10	3	6
PE	212.8	208.4	204.8	181.5	208.7	200.3	209.1	172.0	190.5	5	10	1
NF	194.9	190.6	198.8	197.4	198.8	192.2	192.3	194.5	195.1	7	4	7
Canada	192.3	192.5	191.0	191.2	190.8	187.9	188.4	182.0	183.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada												

PI19: Low Birth Weight - Percentage of Live Births with Weight Less than 2,500 Grams (excluding not stated)												
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	5.0	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.1	4.8	1	3	3
AB	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.6	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.9	10	6	6
SK	4.9	5.1	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.3	5	8	7
MB	5.5	5.4	5.0	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.3	4	5	5
ON	5.4	5.7	5.6	6.0	6.0	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	9	7	8
QC	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.1	5.8	8	4	4
NB	5.0	5.6	5.4	5.5	5.9	4.8	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.5	7	9	9
NS	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.5	6.0	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.2	3	2	1
PE	4.7	4.5	5.2	4.1	6.1	4.6	5.3	5.1	4.9	5.3	6	10	10
NF	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.3	5.5	6.1	5.9	5.5	5.0	2	1	2
Canada	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.8	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada												

PI20: Personal and Property Crime Rate (per 100,000 population)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	10,351	10,025	9,812	9,964	10,089	9,162	8,549	8,048	7,629	7,669	10	7	6
AB	8,304	7,400	6,465	6,204	6,106	6,119	6,050	5,852	5,498	5,504	7	6	1
SK	7,510	7,158	7,075	7,428	7,646	7,770	7,677	7,360	7,550	7,665	9	9	10
MB	7,508	7,819	7,979	7,546	7,463	7,189	6,774	6,662	6,626	6,756	8	10	9
ON	6,414	6,248	5,922	5,968	5,714	5,168	4,763	4,423	4,263	4,303	5	8	2
QC	6,131	5,605	5,150	5,062	5,235	4,969	4,729	4,386	4,365	4,230	4	2	3
NB	4,455	4,537	4,244	4,227	4,267	3,923	3,954	3,943	3,879	3,815	3	4	8
NS	5,917	5,423	5,193	5,172	5,204	5,174	5,034	5,020	4,567	4,496	6	3	5
PE	5,099	4,695	4,204	4,420	4,373	3,912	3,464	3,809	3,747	3,696	2	5	7
NF	4,240	3,798	3,718	3,537	3,738	3,564	3,551	3,332	3,323	3,176	1	1	4
Canada	6,986	6,652	6,297	6,290	6,264	5,857	5,534	5,218	5,052	5,041	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

Supplemental Information: US Comparisons

CT1: Real GDP Per Capita ($1997 Canadian)											
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2000 Rank
QC	23,534	23,465	23,763	24,668	24,966	25,098	25,801	26,545	28,008	29,208	7
ON	29,200	29,061	29,018	30,341	31,018	30,973	31,948	33,083	35,178	36,294	5
AB	31,980	31,773	33,581	35,223	35,864	36,053	37,733	38,761	38,396	39,926	4
BC	28,431	28,350	28,771	28,699	28,592	28,557	28,885	28,992	29,573	30,595	6
CA	35,743	34,911	34,295	34,537	35,458	36,277	37,806	39,650	42,056	44,465	1
OR	27,221	27,369	28,150	28,975	30,138	33,327	34,674	36,331	38,493	41,183	2
WA	33,225	33,452	33,564	34,007	33,591	34,729	36,285	38,436	40,739	41,111	3
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis											

CT1: Growth in Real GDP Per Capita (Percent)											
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2000 Rank	Period Progress Rank
QC	(0.3)	1.3	3.8	1.2	0.5	2.8	2.9	5.5	4.3	3	5
ON	(0.5)	(0.1)	4.6	2.2	(0.1)	3.1	3.6	6.3	3.2	6	6
AB	(0.6)	5.7	4.9	1.8	0.5	4.7	2.7	(0.9)	4.0	4	3
BC	(0.3)	1.5	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.1)	1.1	0.4	2.0	3.5	5	7
CA	(2.3)	(1.8)	0.7	2.7	2.3	4.2	4.9	6.1	5.7	2	4
OR	0.5	2.9	2.9	4.0	10.6	4.0	4.8	6.0	7.0	1	1
WA	0.7	0.3	1.3	(1.2)	3.4	4.5	5.9	6.0	0.9	7	2
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis											

CT2: Real Per Capita Disposable Income ($1997 Canadian)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2000 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	16,279	16,393	16,513	16,784	16,746	16,704	16,931	17,361	18,022	18,528	7	2	2
ON	20,346	19,814	19,600	19,698	19,276	19,594	20,066	20,603	21,439	21,378	5	4	5
AB	19,058	19,209	18,778	19,008	18,826	19,563	20,040	20,136	21,111	22,119	4	1	1
BC	19,237	18,997	18,804	18,794	18,443	18,431	18,427	18,736	19,288	19,513	6	3	7
CA	25,911	25,428	25,564	26,077	26,314	26,591	27,574	27,724	28,483	27,968	1	7	3
OR	23,325	23,381	23,688	24,325	24,247	24,372	24,994	24,843	25,100	24,986	3	5	4
WA	26,811	26,678	26,450	26,407	26,755	27,133	27,814	27,966	28,100	27,613	2	6	6
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis													

CT3:Employment to Population Ratio (ages 15+, 16+)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2000 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	54.5	54.0	54.6	55.0	54.6	55.0	56.1	57.0	57.9	58.1	7	2	1
ON	60.1	59.5	59.6	59.9	59.7	60.2	61.2	62.4	63.3	63.1	4	3	4
AB	65.4	64.9	65.8	66.7	67.3	67.9	68.5	68.4	68.6	69.0	1	1	2
BC	60.1	60.2	61.2	60.7	60.0	60.1	59.2	59.7	60.2	59.2	6	5	7
CA	60.4	59.8	60.5	60.5	60.8	62.0	62.5	62.8	63.7	63.4	3	4	3
OR	62.6	63.3	65.3	64.7	65.2	64.6	65.2	64.3	65.8	63.8	2	6	5
WA	63.5	63.3	63.2	64.1	64.5	66.8	66.9	66.9	65.1	62.5	5	7	6
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Economic Analysis													

PI1: Real Average Hourly Earnings (1997 Canadian Dollars)													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	15.1	15.1	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.4	15.0	14.7	14.8	14.8	1	3	2
ON	16.1	16.1	16.4	16.2	16.5	16.1	16.3	16.4	16.4	16.2	6	2	4
AB	15.5	15.6	15.3	14.7	14.9	15.1	15.7	16.1	15.8	15.6	2	1	6
BC	16.4	16.1	16.2	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.4	16.0	16.3	16.3	7	4	1
CA	15.1	14.9	14.9	14.9	15.0	15.2	15.5	15.6	15.6	15.6	3	5	5
OR	14.8	14.6	14.6	14.7	14.6	14.8	15.2	15.3	15.4	15.6	4	7	7
WA	15.6	15.4	15.7	15.5	15.3	15.4	15.7	16.0	15.9	16.1	5	6	3
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureau of Labor Statistics; US Bureau of Economic Analysis													

PI2: Real GDP Per Hour Worked in The Business Sector ($1997 Canadian Per Hour)													
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2000 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	27.34	28.23	28.74	28.43	28.59	29.17	29.45	30.01	30.84	32.16	6	2	6
ON	28.99	30.18	30.00	30.87	31.97	31.54	32.18	32.90	34.49	34.98	5	4	3
AB	31.94	32.75	34.69	35.63	35.63	35.40	37.16	38.23	37.67	38.09	4	5	2
BC	27.91	28.58	28.59	28.72	29.14	29.14	29.40	30.03	30.35	30.67	7	6	7
CA	52.28	52.97	53.01	52.97	54.30	54.73	55.99	57.62	60.98	62.88	1	3	5
OR	38.00	38.30	39.01	38.70	40.01	44.08	44.42	47.09	50.11	53.30	3	1	1
WA	45.26	46.03	46.58	46.98	46.76	47.87	48.44	51.18	54.62	54.48	2	7	4
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Bureaus of Economic Analysis and Labor Statistics													

PI2 (SI): Unit Labour Costs ($Canadian Per $1997 Canadian)													
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2000 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	0.46	0.46	0.47	0.48	0.48	0.49	0.48	0.48	0.49	0.49	6	1	5
ON	0.46	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.46	0.48	0.47	0.47	0.46	0.48	5	6	4
AB	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.41	0.42	4	4	2
BC	0.47	0.48	0.49	0.50	0.51	0.52	0.52	0.51	0.51	0.52	7	5	7
CA	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	1	3	3
OR	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.39	0.37	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.35	2	2	1
WA	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.36	3	7	6
Sources: BC Progress Board; BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US BEA; US BLS													

PI5: Per Capita Tax Burden											
	1991/ 92	1992/ 93	1993/ 94	1994/ 95	1995/ 96	1996/ 97	1997/ 98	1998/ 99	1998/99 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	5,141	5,186	5,214	5,335	5,566	5,644	5,896	6,361	7	7	5
ON	4,810	4,785	4,963	5,142	5,413	5,548	5,744	5,843	6	2	3
AB	3,787	3,694	3,824	4,081	4,094	4,233	4,584	4,708	4	3	7
BC	4,012	4,128	4,678	4,774	4,868	4,926	4,872	4,826	5	1	2
CA	3,069	3,026	3,003	3,030	3,191	3,274	3,567	3,732	3	6	4
OR	2,673	2,723	2,803	2,695	2,641	2,868	2,893	2,996	1	5	1
WA	2,967	3,056	3,229	3,198	3,291	3,389	3,571	3,693	2	4	6
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Census Bureau											

PI6: Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rates (Percent)													
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2002 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	52.9	52.9	52.9	52.9	52.9	52.6	52.2	50.7	48.7	48.2	7	5	4
ON	50.5	53.2	53.2	52.9	51.6	50.3	48.8	47.9	46.4	46.4	4	6	3
AB	46.1	46.1	46.1	46.1	46.1	45.6	45.2	43.7	39.0	39.0	2	6	1
BC	51.1	54.2	54.2	54.2	54.2	54.2	52.3	51.3	45.7	43.7	3	1	2
CA	50.6	50.6	50.6	48.9	48.9	48.9	48.9	48.9	48.4	47.9	6	4	5
OR	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.6	48.1	47.6	5	3	6
WA	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.6	39.1	38.6	1	2	7
Sources: BC Ministry of Finance; KPMG; US Internal Revenue Service													

PI8: Net Migration as a Proportion of the Population													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.1)	5	5	2
ON	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.0)	(0.0)	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	4	7	1
AB	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.0)	0.3	0.9	1.5	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	1	2	7
BC	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.3	(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.2)	(0.2)	6	6	6
CA	(0.7)	(1.3)	(1.4)	(1.2)	(0.8)	(0.5)	(0.3)	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.2)	7	4	3
OR	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	2	3	5
WA	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	3	1	4
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Census Bureau													

PI12: R&D Expenditures as a Percent of GDP												
	1991	1992 (int.)	1993	1994 (int.)	1995	1996 (int.)	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	3	2	2
ON	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	4	4	4
AB	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	7	7	7
BC	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	6	1	5
CA	3.5	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	2	3	6
OR	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.8	5	5	1
WA	3.2	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.9	4.3	4.4	4.0	1	6	3
Sources: Statistics Canada; US National Science Foundation												

PI14: Air Quality - Annual Mean PM_{10} Concentration (µg/m3)						
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Toronto	n/a	19.0	20.0	20.0	18.0	n/a
Vancouver	14.0	13.7	14.3	13.3	13.8	12.8
Montreal	n/a	25.0	26.0	23.0	22.0	n/a
Edmonton	20.0	24.0	31.0	28.0	25.0	n/a
Los Angeles	46.8	46.1	40.5	56.3	46.3	45.3
Portland	27.2	30.2	28.9	26.8	23.0	19.0
Seattle	26.3	30.6	24.5	24.8	27.0	21.9

PI14: Air Quality - Annual Mean $PM_{2.5}$ Concentration (µg/m3)			
	2000	2001	2001 Rank
Vancouver		5.3	1
Calgary		6.3	2
Toronto		n/a	n/a
Montreal		9.7	4
Los Angeles	23.9	24.8	6
Portland	9.6	8.8	3
Seattle	12.7	11.4	5

Sources: BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; US Environmental Protection Agency

PI19: Low Weight Births (less than 2,500 grams) as a Proportion of Live Births											
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	5.7	5.7	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.1	5.8	5	2	2
ON	5.6	6.0	6.0	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	3	6	6
AB	5.8	5.7	5.6	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.9	2	3	3
BC	4.8	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.1	4.8	7	1	1
CA	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	1	4	4
OR	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.4	6	5	5
WA	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	4	7	7

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Department of Health and Human Services

PI20: Total (Personal and Property) Crime Rate Per 100,000 Population													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
QC	6,131	5,605	5,150	5,062	5,235	4,969	4,729	4,386	4,365	4,230	2	1	4
ON	6,414	6,248	5,922	5,968	5,714	5,168	4,763	4,423	4,263	4,303	3	4	3
AB	8,304	7,400	6,465	6,204	6,106	6,119	6,050	5,852	5,498	5,504	6	2	2
BC	10,351	10,025	9,812	9,964	10,089	9,162	8,549	8,048	7,629	7,669	7	3	5
CA	6,656	6,444	6,163	5,811	5,185	4,833	4,301	3,765	3,726	3,903	1	7	1
OR	5,792	5,712	6,225	6,475	5,917	6,153	5,528	4,887	4,834	5,044	4	6	7
WA	6,143	5,925	5,991	6,213	5,870	5,859	5,786	5,178	5,093	5,152	5	5	6

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada; US Census Bureau

Supplemental Information: Topic Boxes

Historical Comparison

	'71	'72	'73	'74	'75	'76	'77	'78	'79	'80	'81	'82	'83	'84	'85	'86	'87	'88	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01
Growth Rate of Real GDP ($1997) Per Capita																															
BC	3.5	2.2	7.1	(2.5)	(1.3)	8.4	3.2	0.7	1.6	4.1	6.9	(7.4)	0.2	(0.3)	6.7	0.5	4.6	3.7	1.0	(1.3)	(2.2)	(0.7)	1.1	0.1	(0.6)	0.2	1.4	0.7	2.1	3.1	(0.2)
Canada	2.5	4.1	5.9	2.7	0.7	4.1	2.3	3.0	3.2	0.1	2.1	(4.0)	1.7	4.7	4.4	1.6	2.7	3.5	0.7	(1.2)	(3.1)	(0.3)	1.2	3.6	1.6	0.4	3.1	3.2	4.4	3.7	0.3
Growth Rate of Real PDI ($1997) Per Capita																															
BC	3.3	10.2	9.7	4.3	3.7	3.9	4.4	3.6	4.8	5.1	2.9	(3.4)	(5.3)	0.3	2.0	(0.7)	2.3	3.6	5.0	0.5	(3.3)	(1.0)	(1.3)	(1.1)	0.1	(2.0)	(0.1)	(0.6)	1.2	2.2	0.7
Canada	3.4	7.4	7.9	5.7	3.7	3.6	1.3	3.5	2.8	2.1	2.7	(0.7)	(3.0)	3.1	3.1	0.3	1.0	3.7	3.1	0.0	(2.6)	(0.4)	(1.1)	(0.7)	1.2	(1.2)	0.6	2.0	2.3	3.7	1.5
Employment Rate (ages 15-64)																															
BC	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	64.3	64.4	65.6	66.8	68.9	69.7	65.1	64.0	63.3	64.0	66.2	67.8	69.6	71.6	71.9	70.8	70.8	70.9	72.0	71.4	70.5	70.6	69.7	70.4	71.1	70.0
Canada	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	64.2	64.0	64.7	66.4	67.1	68.0	65.0	64.7	65.6	66.8	68.2	69.5	71.0	71.7	71.4	69.2	67.8	67.5	68.1	68.6	68.3	69.0	70.0	71.1	72.1	71.9

Note: These data differ slightly from those found elsewhere in the report. Statistics Canada did not produce pre-1981 data when they revised the calculation of GDP. To maintain consistency between pre- and post-1981 data, the older dataset is used here.

Source: BC Stats using Statistics Canada data.

Size of Government: Consolidated Provincial-Local Expenditure as a Percent of GDP

	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2001/02 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	29.2	28.4	28.7	28.2	28.1	27.6	29.6	28.1	27.1	27.8	3	7	10
AB	30.7	28.0	23.3	21.6	20.0	19.3	20.5	20.0	19.2	20.1	1	8	1
SK	36.3	36.1	32.3	30.0	27.1	27.6	29.4	30.5	27.4	28.9	4	9	2
MB	34.7	34.9	32.7	32.6	30.7	30.3	30.2	32.5	30.8	30.6	5	3	7
ON	28.8	28.4	27.6	26.5	25.1	23.7	23.5	22.5	22.7	22.4	2	2	3
QC	36.6	36.5	35.6	34.7	33.6	32.5	32.1	31.4	31.3	31.7	7	6	8
NB	36.9	35.9	35.8	34.3	33.3	33.2	33.8	34.2	32.2	32.1	8	4	5
NS	34.4	34.3	34.3	33.5	32.0	32.3	32.5	31.2	31.0	30.6	6	1	4
PE	38.7	41.6	35.1	33.4	33.9	34.1	34.8	35.3	35.3	35.3	9	5	9
NF	44.7	42.0	41.4	39.9	40.5	39.5	38.3	36.6	34.2	36.6	10	10	6
Canada	31.9	31.3	30.0	28.9	27.6	26.6	26.9	26.1	25.6	25.9	n/a	n/a	n/a

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

Business Gross Fixed Capital Formation (Excluding Residential Structures) as a Percent of GDP													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	9.5	8.9	10.3	10.1	9.3	11.0	10.4	10.7	11.2	11.4	6	2	8
AB	14.0	15.3	17.9	18.0	17.8	21.9	23.1	21.9	25.4	26.4	1	1	1
SK	14.2	13.0	13.8	14.9	16.2	21.9	17.6	18.1	17.8	15.9	3	8	9
MB	8.6	8.8	8.0	9.2	10.1	12.5	12.0	12.3	12.5	12.1	5	4	5
ON	9.5	8.5	8.5	8.8	9.6	10.9	11.0	11.3	11.3	10.8	8	5	7
QC	9.7	9.5	8.8	8.7	8.9	10.0	10.6	11.4	11.8	10.9	7	7	10
NB	9.3	8.0	7.5	8.9	9.5	8.8	11.0	14.6	14.5	10.6	9	10	6
NS	7.7	7.0	7.9	7.5	8.4	12.6	14.5	17.7	14.5	13.9	4	6	2
PE	6.3	6.9	11.1	12.8	13.2	8.2	8.8	9.9	10.4	10.4	10	3	4
NF	13.6	16.5	19.6	20.9	16.5	19.4	17.4	22.4	19.7	16.9	2	9	3
Canada	10.2	9.8	10.2	10.4	10.7	12.6	12.7	13.0	13.5	13.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

Registered Apprenticeship Completions per 1,000 population														
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	0.76	0.79	0.90	0.91	0.79	0.71	0.70	0.76	0.66	0.73	0.70	2	9	6
AB	1.42	1.49	1.44	1.66	1.64	1.54	1.42	1.51	1.45	1.44	1.50	1	8	4
SK	0.40	0.43	0.41	0.46	0.38	0.39	0.36	0.54	0.40	0.66	0.73	3	4	1
MB	0.50	0.67	0.43	0.37	0.39	0.37	0.34	0.32	0.36	0.40	0.47	8	3	3
ON	0.60	0.70	0.61	0.57	0.54	0.59	0.52	0.49	0.52	0.62	0.53	4	10	7
QC	0.42	0.43	0.37	0.28	0.19	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.25	0.27	0.29	10	5	9
NB	0.71	0.72	0.83	0.95	0.79	0.81	0.74	0.62	0.52	0.47	0.56	6	2	8
NS	0.68	0.77	0.74	0.70	0.50	0.44	0.40	0.31	0.33	0.43	0.46	7	6	10
PE	0.31	0.35	0.31	0.34	0.38	0.31	0.54	0.28	0.34	0.36	0.43	9	1	2
NF	0.58	0.61	0.63	0.56	0.42	0.41	0.45	0.38	0.47	0.52	0.55	5	7	5
Canada	0.64	0.70	0.66	0.64	0.58	0.58	0.54	0.55	0.54	0.61	0.59	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada														

Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) Rates, Both Sexes, All Causes													
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	67.3	65.4	64.6	63.8	64.5	61.9	60.5	56.2	55.8	51.8	2	2	2
AB	67.3	66.4	64.7	62.7	64.1	62.5	60.0	58.7	55.8	56.6	5	9	7
SK	67.5	66.5	65.0	64.6	64.7	66.2	67.2	63.4	64.4	62.2	9	5	9
MB	68.9	66.6	66.8	66.5	64.9	68.1	63.7	64.4	63.0	64.2	10	10	10
ON	62.0	61.9	61.7	59.2	59.3	57.7	55.3	53.3	50.8	49.1	1	6	4
QC	69.9	67.1	65.5	64.1	64.0	64.0	61.7	60.5	57.5	57.3	6	7	5
NB	68.8	65.0	63.5	67.5	65.1	59.5	60.0	60.2	58.8	59.5	8	8	8
NS	69.4	67.3	67.9	62.6	61.6	62.6	61.7	59.3	59.2	54.3	4	1	3
PE	71.9	75.0	74.3	58.4	68.0	62.7	60.7	57.3	60.2	57.5	7	4	6
NF	71.2	69.1	62.5	62.8	65.8	62.5	60.8	61.8	57.1	53.8	3	3	1
Canada	66.5	65.0	64.1	62.4	62.6	61.5	59.4	57.5	55.3	54.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

Age-Standardized Mortality Rates per 100,000 Population - Diseases of the Circulatory System													
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1999 Rank	1-Year Progress Check	Period Progress Rank
BC	252.8	249.8	240.8	239.9	230.9	225.9	226.5	214.0	212.2	205.5	1	7	3
AB	261.2	261.3	251.8	257.1	258.0	246.5	251.1	246.8	234.5	232.5	6	10	10
SK	272.0	264.2	239.0	248.8	244.5	241.6	238.0	231.1	233.2	230.0	5	9	5
MB	268.8	266.1	267.1	275.1	264.8	274.1	258.4	247.8	248.1	237.7	7	5	9
ON	276.4	272.5	269.6	268.2	260.8	253.8	250.5	236.2	233.6	227.0	4	8	4
QC	290.6	277.7	266.8	273.0	258.3	256.7	244.0	249.3	231.7	220.1	2	4	1
NB	280.6	282.4	275.5	277.8	280.6	266.6	255.4	252.4	252.5	242.7	9	6	7
NS	295.0	282.9	281.9	276.5	283.4	269.1	253.0	261.3	245.3	226.2	3	2	2
PE	304.6	297.5	285.8	300.2	265.9	282.8	302.6	215.4	264.3	242.2	8	1	8
NF	342.5	326.6	322.1	325.3	324.2	312.7	308.6	336.8	310.7	293.4	10	3	6
Canada	277.3	271.2	264.1	265.9	257.8	252.5	247.1	240.1	233.0	224.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada													

Comparison of Vancouver, Victoria and Regional BC

Economy, Innovation and Education

RPI1: Employment rate (employment to population ratio, 15 to 64 year olds)

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	72.9	71.0	71.8	71.3	70.5	69.8	68.7	69.7	71.0	69.8
Victoria CMA	72.7	73.2	72.8	71.9	70.0	71.7	69.1	72.8	73.2	70.5
RBC	65.8	68.1	69.1	69.4	68.5	69.3	68.4	68.4	68.5	67.8
BC	70.0	70.0	70.8	70.6	69.6	69.7	68.6	69.4	70.2	69.1

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

RPI2: Taxfilers' Employment Income - Millions of $1992

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Vancouver CMA	24.6	23.8	24.4	24.8	24.9	25.4	26.5	27.5	28.2	29.6
Victoria CMA	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3
RBC	16.9	16.5	17.0	17.8	18.1	18.3	18.7	19.1	19.1	19.5
BC	45.3	44.0	45.4	46.6	47.0	47.8	49.3	50.7	51.6	53.5

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

RPI3: Manufacturing Shipments - Billions $1992

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Vancouver CMA	7.6	6.6	7.0	6.6	7.1	7.5	7.8	8.0	7.2	7.3
Victoria CMA	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
RBC	19.1	16.6	17.1	18.9	21.4	24.0	22.2	22.2	21.3	24.4
BC	26.9	23.4	24.4	25.7	28.8	31.7	30.2	30.5	28.9	32.1

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

RPI4: Retail Sales - Billions $1992

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	12.7	13.2	14.4	15.7	15.5	15.6	15.3	15.3	15.8	16.3
Victoria CMA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
RBC	11.9	12.4	13.5	13.5	13.9	15.2	14.7	15.0	15.7	16.6
BC	24.5	25.7	27.9	29.2	29.4	30.8	30.0	30.3	31.6	33.0

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

RPI5: Housing Starts (Thousands of Dwelling Units)

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	18.7	21.3	20.5	15.0	15.5	16.0	11.9	8.7	8.2	10.9
Victoria CMA	2.4	2.6	2.3	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.3	0.9	1.3
RBC	19.5	18.9	16.6	10.8	11.0	12.1	7.1	6.3	5.3	5.1
BC	40.6	42.8	39.4	27.1	27.6	29.4	19.9	16.3	14.4	17.2

Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada

RPI6: Non-Residential Building Permits - Billion $1992										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0
Victoria CMA	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
RBC	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7
BC	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI7: High School Graduates as a Percentage of the 18 Year Old Population										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	69.4	66.8	69.5	71.9	72.8	75.6	78.1	80.1	80.4	82.9
Victoria CMA*	63.6	57.9	62.4	64.5	65.5	69.9	71.4	73.2	75.5	75.1
RBC	65.2	64.2	67.4	67.6	66.6	68.1	69.7	73.6	73.2	73.9
BC	67.0	64.9	68.0	69.4	69.5	71.8	73.8	76.6	76.7	78.2
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI8: Percent of Population (Ages 25 to 54) with University Completion										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	18.8	21.2	22.8	22.4	24.1	22.4	25.1	24.9	25.4	25.0
Victoria CMA	20.8	21.0	23.8	24.6	20.8	24.7	23.0	26.8	26.8	25.0
RBC	9.5	9.7	10.5	10.7	11.8	12.7	11.7	12.2	13.2	12.1
BC	15.2	16.5	17.9	17.9	18.9	18.8	19.7	20.1	20.8	20.1
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI9: Employment in Natural and Applied Sciences & Related Occupations as a Percent of Total Employment										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	4.6	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.8	5.8	6.4	7.5	7.0	6.9
Victoria CMA	7.0	5.9	5.3	5.5	5.9	6.4	6.9	5.5	8.0	8.3
RBC	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.6
BC	4.4	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.7	6.3	6.3	6.1
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI10: Business Incorporations less Bankruptcies (Thousands)										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	13.7	15.5	17.2	16.2	16.0	15.7	14.0	14.2	14.4	13.1
Victoria CMA	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.3
RBC	4.3	5.2	6.2	5.4	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.0
BC	19.4	22.1	25.0	22.9	22.3	22.1	19.7	19.9	20.4	18.4
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

Environment, Health and Society

RPI11: Air Quality - Annual Mean Concentrations of PM_{10} (µg/m3)								
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver	14.8	15.3	14.0	13.7	14.3	13.3	13.8	12.8
Langley	13.6	13.0	12.4	11.2	11.8	12.3	12.5	12.1
Campbell River	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.7	11.6	12.4	11.9
Kamloops	17.3	17.9	16.9	13.1	15.0	14.1	14.2	14.8
Kelowna	19.2	17.4	16.2	15.5	16.7	13.0	14.2	15.0
Prince George	22.0	24.2	20.1	20.2	22.7	17.9	18.0	18.1
Victoria	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.0
Source: BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection								

RPI12: Wastewater Treatment, Secondary and Tertiary				
	1991	1994	1996	1999
GVRD & LFV - Secondary	9.1	10.4	9.8	57.4
Victoria - Secondary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RBC - Secondary	32.6	28.8	28.8	31.3
RBC - Tertiary	13.1	14.3	13.2	15.0
Sources: BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; Environment Canada				

RPI13: Cancer Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Population 45 Years and Older										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.5
Victoria CMA	6.5	6.9	6.8	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.0
RBC	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.0	4.9
BC	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI14: Life Expectancy at Birth (Years - Both Sexes, Two Year Averages)										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	78.8	78.5	79.0	79.0	79.2	79.6	79.9	80.4	80.9	81.6
Victoria CMA	78.9	78.9	79.0	79.6	79.6	79.6	79.7	80.7	80.9	80.6
ROBC	78.1	78.0	78.2	78.2	78.3	78.6	78.8	79.1	79.5	79.8
BC	78.5	78.3	78.6	78.7	78.9	79.2	79.4	79.9	80.3	80.7
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI15: Low Weight (Less than 2,500 Grams) Births Per 1,000 Live Births										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	50.0	52.5	56.4	60.4	54.3	57.7	52.2	51.1	54.2	50.0
Victoria CMA	49.0	55.5	52.4	51.7	53.7	47.4	47.1	54.2	46.2	48.3
RBC	47.6	53.9	54.6	58.3	53.6	50.7	48.6	42.5	47.6	48.8
BC	48.9	53.3	55.3	58.9	54.0	54.1	50.3	47.7	51.0	49.4
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI16: Personal and Property Crime Rate (Incidents Per 100 population)										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	11.8	11.3	11.1	11.6	12.1	10.6	9.9	9.4	8.9	9.3
Victoria CMA	9.5	9.3	8.9	8.6	8.1	7.6	7.3	7.7	6.8	6.6
RBC	9.5	9.3	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.3	7.7	7.1	6.9	6.7
BC	10.4	10.1	9.8	10.0	10.1	9.2	8.6	8.1	7.6	7.7
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

RPI17: Percentage of Families & Unattached Individuals Below the After-Tax Low Income Cut-Offs										
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Vancouver CMA	20.8	20.3	22.5	20.7	19.2	22.5	21.7	19.7	21.4	19.6
Victoria CMA	11.6	18.8	16.3	21.7	18.6	15.3	16.2	15.3	14.4	16.7
RBC	11.3	9.3	9.8	10.1	10.3	13.7	13.7	11.5	12.6	12.0
BC	16.1	15.8	16.8	16.6	15.6	18.1	17.7	15.7	17.1	16.3
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										

Per Cent of Population 19-64 Years Receiving Employment Insurance Benefits										
	1992*	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	5.4	5.2	4.3	3.7	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.6
Victoria CMA*	4.8	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.4	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.1	2.4
ROBC	8.1	7.7	6.4	5.4	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.2	3.7	4.1
BC	6.4	6.1	5.1	4.4	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.3	2.8	3.2
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada *Average of June, September & December 1992										

Per Cent of Population 0 - 64 years Receiving Basic BC Benefits (Income Assistance)										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Vancouver CMA	8.2	8.9	9.2	9.3	8.1	6.8	6.0	5.3	4.8	4.4
Victoria CMA	8.1	8.9	9.4	9.9	8.8	7.4	6.4	5.8	5.4	4.9
RBC	10.2	10.9	11.4	11.8	10.6	8.9	8.1	7.6	7.0	6.7
BC	9.0	9.7	10.1	10.4	9.2	7.7	6.9	6.3	5.8	5.4
Sources: BC Stats; Statistics Canada										